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Amir names 25

Five ministers included; political process completes

KUWAIT, June 29. (Agencies): His Highness the Amir Sheikh Jaber Al Ahmed Al Sabah, issued a decree yesterday appointing 25 members to the 75-member National Council including five members of the current government.

The list showed appointees included a number of academics, businessmen and men of experience in various fields, albeit of no previous political career.

The appointments came in implementation of an Amir decree that created the 75-member interim legislature and assigned it the primary task of "appraising the country's

parliamentary experiment and proposing guidelines for the future so as to avert the repetition of the drawbacks" that twice prompted the dissolution of parliament in a decade, in 1976 and 1986.

The appointments completed a political process begun on April 22 when the Amir called elections.

The other 30 members of the interim body were elected on June 10 by secret ballot, two for each of the country's 25 constituencies. The turnout was officially set at more than 62 per cent.



Royal wedding

Kiko Kawashima married the emperor's second son on Friday wearing a thousand-year-old style kimono set of a dozen layers, with a train reported to weigh 50 pounds (23 kgs).

With help, it takes about two hours to put on the outfit, which reportedly cost more than 35 million yen (\$229,000).

Prince Aya also wore a traditional Japanese court costume, although his was a lot simpler. He was in a black robe with large sleeves — with the design of cranes flying into clouds — and a cap with an arched tailpiece, a symbol of his status as an imperial prince. He is second in line to the throne.

A lady-in-waiting carried the train for the new Princess Kiko.

Venezuelans fed up 'Leave Opec'

CARACAS, Venezuela, June 29. (AP): The state-owned oil industry is pressing the government to take Venezuela out of Opec, the organisation this country helped found, officials said today.

The daily El Nacional reported today that the state oil monopoly Petros de Venezuela, S.A. (PDVSA) wants Venezuela to leave Opec.

Officials of the governing party, Democratic Action (AD), confirmed that PDVSA president Andres Bosa Piñetti met with the party's executive national committee Tuesday and told them that Opec quotas were "against Venezuela's best interests."

At the meeting, Bosa Piñetti said there was no reason why Venezuela should continue to follow Opec guidelines, since other members were flouting them openly, said the sources, who asked to remain anonymous.

Neither PDVSA nor the energy and mines ministry have made any comments on El Nacional's story.

Both President Carlos Andres Perez and Energy Minister Celestino Armas are staunch Opec upholders.

Ameeri attacks opponents of oil

Libya seeks parity with Kuwait

KUWAIT, June 29. (Agencies): Kuwait's new oil minister said in remarks published today unidentified opponents were launching an indirect war by claiming oil was causing serious environmental pollution.

Kuwaiti newspapers quoted Rushd Salem Al Ameeri as saying "opponents are fighting oil producers by claiming oil was causing serious environmental pollution."

"This claim is tantamount to an indirect war launched by these states on oil countries. The minister, a chemical engineer, was addressing academics who were congratulating him on his new portfolio in the government formed last week.

The Amir has set July 9 as the date for inaugurating the National Council. The session is expected to be mainly ceremonial, following which the chamber will adjourn in summer recess, according to informed sources.

The five ministers who will also double as council members are the Interior Minister, Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, the Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs, Dr Abdul-Rahman Al Awadi, Minister of State for National Council Affairs Bader Yaqoub, Minister of Public Health Dr Abdul-Wahab Al Fawzan and Minister of State for Municipal Affairs, Fahd Al Hassawi.

With the makeup of the council completed, diplomats predicted.

(Continued on Page 11)



Badly hurt

Prince Charles during a polo match. The prince spent the night in Greencroft Hospital in London after badly breaking his arm during the polo match on Thursday. (Reuters photo)

(See also Page 2)

Impose sanctions on Iraq: US Senate

WASHINGTON, July 29. (AP): The foreign relations committee of the US Senate voted 12-4 yesterday for a bill that would impose sanctions on Iraq because of human rights violations.

The fate of the bill in the Senate is uncertain.

The legislation would require the United States to oppose any lending to Iraq by international financial institutions and bar US government credits to the country.

That would cost Iraq \$200 million a year in credits through the Export-Import Bank as well as even larger amounts in loan guarantees used to buy US farm products.

"In fact, other sources such as coal and nuclear energy have a much bigger effect on the environment than oil," Ameeri said.

"We should thus be cautious and not be misled by this unfair claim which does not help the cause of the environment as much as it serves the interests of those behind it."

Philippines coverage — Page 5 —

He said Kuwait advocated "a clean environment of the highest degree."

Meanwhile, Libya said on Wednesday it would continue to press claims for an Opec oil production quota equal to Kuwait's.

Our position with regard to quotas is very well known and unchanged and we shall continue to defend this position," a senior Libyan official said.

The official, who asked not to be named, was responding to questions sent by Reuters from Nicosia on whether Libya would agree to the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (Opec) allocating higher shares to Kuwait and the United Arab Emirates.

Delegation sources said the Opec's President, Sadek Boussena of Algeria, was sounding out Gulf states on a possible compromise which would allocate Kuwait and the UAE quotas of about 1.7 million barrels per day (bpd) each.

Opec's output agreement last November gave Kuwait 1.5 million bpd and Libya expressed reservations after failing to secure an equal share.

Tripoli went ahead with a 75-day test production period that added some 300,000 bpd to its capacity of 1.35 million bpd and doubled its recoverable reserves to over 45 billion barrels in a bid to press its demands for a higher share.

Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Hisham Nazer arrived in Abu Dhabi today for what he said would be talks.

(Continued on Page 11)

Bush vows to make Israelis talk at last

'We're not going to sit here and do nothing'

WASHINGTON, June 29. (Agencies): President George Bush vowed today to make negotiations between Israel and Palestinians happen, saying they were vital to break an unacceptable deadlock in Middle East peace efforts.

Declining to comment in detail on a letter from Israeli Prime Minister Yitzhak Shamir, which arrived in Washington yesterday, Bush told a White House news conference:

"There has got to be discussion with Palestinians. That has to happen and we will push and find ways to make it happen if we can. We're

halfway across the world. But we are not going to give up on that kind of solution to this problem."

US Secretary of State James Baker worked for a year to get talks going between Israel and Palestinians from the occupied territories on elections in the West Bank and Gaza Strip.

Shamir's previous coalition with the dovish Labour Party collapsed last March when the hardline Israeli leader balked at some of Baker's proposals. His new government is the most right-wing Israel has ever had.



Playing with snakes

A 4-year-old Indonesian boy Yova Elisa plays with two snakes around his neck. Yova Elisa has shared his house with more than 200 cobras, pythons and other poisonous snakes since he was born. (Reuters wirephoto)

Militants kill top judge

Kashmir students' front claims

SRINAGAR, June 29. (Agencies): Kashmiri militants burst into the home of a senior judge in India's Jammu and Kashmir state and shot him dead today, police said.

The slaying marked the latest violence in a week of bloody clashes between Indian security forces and Muslim militants campaigning for the Kashmir valley's secession from India.

In Srinagar, the centre of the secessionist campaign that has claimed more than 700 lives since January, neighbours said they saw two armed men running from the house of Abdul Aziz Khan after he was shot in the back and abdomen.

Khan, designated additional district magistrate and in effect Srinagar's top law and order official, was rushed to a hospital where he died, police said. Khan was leaving for the office when gunmen entered his house in the city centre.

Khan was a member of the Indian Civil Service and had been given judicial powers as a magistrate.

The banned Jammu and Kashmir Students' Liberation Front, one of several Kashmiri secessionist groups, quickly claimed responsibility for the assassination.

The group was also responsible for the murders of the vice chancellor of Kashmir University in April and two senior government officials, police said.

Talks between the foreign secretaries of India and Pakistan will be held in Islamabad on July 18 and 19 to defuse tension between the two countries.

Pledge to back independence

New PM for Azad Kashmir

MUZAFFARABAD, Pakistan, June 29. (Reuters): Followers of Prime Minister Benazir Bhutto took power in Pakistan-governed Kashmir today, vowing to back an independence campaign in the Indian-ruled part of the disputed region.

"Our government will fully support the freedom struggle in the (Indian) occupied Kashmir," newly elected State Premier Raja Mumtaz Hussein Rathore said.

"What will be the mode of that support will be determined later," he said after being elected to office by the legislative assembly of Azad (free) Kashmir.

Thousands of refugees, many of them political activists, have poured into Azad Kashmir from India's Jammu and Kashmir state since New Delhi launched a crackdown against a violent secessionist campaign that erupted there in January.

Troops kill 31 Tamil rebels

14 bodies found

COLOMBO, June 29. (AP): Sri Lankan military forces killed 31 Tamil rebels in clashes today and the bodies of 14 policemen were uncovered in a mass grave, military officials reported.

The officials, speaking on condition of anonymity, said two soldiers were killed in the latest fighting in an 18-day-old civil war, which has engulfed the Tamil-dominated north and east.

The latest deaths raise to 1,764 the number of combatants killed since fighting between Tamil guerrillas and government forces resumed June 11 after a 13-month ceasefire.

An undetermined number of civilians also have died.

Military officials reported several battles in the east, saying at least 18 rebels were killed in search operations conducted by the army.

Also in the east, the bodies of 14 policemen who were shot to death were found yesterday, they said.

At least 850 policemen were captured by the Tamil Tiger rebels when they overran police stations in the east during a flareup of violence June 11.

Officials say at least 300 of the policemen have been killed, and the fate of the others is not known.

In the north, at least 13 rebels and two soldiers were killed in a gun-battle in the district of Vavuniya, the officials said.

Fighting also continued around Jaffna fort, an army installation in the heart of rebel territory, officials said.

At least 225 soldiers have been holed up in the fort since the fighting started and have repulsed repeated attacks by the rebels, they said.

Dollar/gold

LONDON, June 29. (AP): The US dollar fell against most major foreign currencies today in thin European trading after confirmation by US President George Bush that taxes must be raised to help offset the nation's budget deficit.

Gold prices were mixed in quiet trading.

In Tokyo, the dollar fell to a closing 152.85 Japanese yen from 154.42 yen at Thursday's close. Later, in London, it fell to 152.30 yen.

In London, the British pound rose to \$1.7450 from \$1.7400.

Other late dollar rates in Europe, compared with late Thursday:

- 1.6653 West German marks, down from 1.6675.
- 1.4155 Swiss francs, up from 1.4125.
- 5.5945 French francs, down from 5.6015.
- 1.8737 Dutch guilders, down from 1.8772.

Bullion dealers said trading was listless with traders reluctant to take on new positions at the end of the month.

Gold rose in London to a late bid price of \$353.25 a troy ounce, up from \$352.25 bid late Thursday.

Earlier, in Hong Kong, gold rose \$1.40 to close at a bid \$352.74.

Kuwait, Iran to reopen shipping

KUWAIT, June 29. (Reuters): Kuwait and Iran will reopen a passenger shipping link next week, several years after services were suspended during the Gulf war, a Kuwaiti newspaper said today.

It quoted Ahmed Ali Dashedi, an official of the Kuwaiti-Iranian Shipping Company, as saying the vessel Iran Hormuz 24 would arrive at Shuwaikh port from Bushire on Tuesday to inaugurate the service.

Kuwaiti ships were frequently attacked by Iran during the eight-year long Gulf war, halted by a UN-brokered ceasefire in August, 1988.

The new link will mainly benefit thousands of Iranian expatriates working in Kuwait who until now have had to travel via Dubai.

Zenga is sexy

Rock star Madonna wants Italian striker Roberto Baggio's shirt but thinks goalkeeper Walter Zenga is the sexiest member of the team.

She plans to watch the World Cup final in Rome on July 8 — two days before she gives a concert in the capital.

Madonna, whose family came from the Abruzzi mountains northeast of Rome, told the top circulation sports newspaper Gazzetta dello Sport she was sure Italy would be in the final.

The paper quoted her as saying she would invite the squad to dinner and to her concert in return she would give Baggio's shirt.

"That goal (by Baggio) against Czechoslovakia was marvelous. I did not know his name then but that goal and his big green eyes conquered me," she said.



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هذا من الأصل

'Step by Step' on top of UK pop

NEW YORK, June 29. (AP) "Step by Step" kept the New Kids on the Block at the top of the single pop record charts in the United States for the second week in a row Wednesday. The only newcomer to the top 10 list was "I'll Be Your Shelter" by Taylor Dayne, up to number eight from 13th position a week ago. As for the country-and-western singles, "He Walked on Water" by Randy Travis took over as the number one position on the Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets.

The top 10 country-and-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets.

1. (1) Step by Step - New Kids on the Block (Columbia).
2. (2) I Must Have Been Love - Roxette (EMI).
3. (3) Poison - BBD (MCA).
4. (8) Do You Remember - Phil Collins (Atlantic).
5. (6) Ready or Not - After Seven (Virgin).
6. (5) Hold On - Wilson Phillips (SBS).
7. (9) Hold On - En Vogue (Atlantic).
8. (13) I'll Be Your Shelter - Taylor Dayne (Arista).
9. (7) Vogue - Madonna (Sire-Warner Brothers).
10. (4) You Can't Touch This - MC Hammer (Columbia).

The top 10 country-and-western singles, as rated by Cash Box magazine, with last week's positions in brackets.

1. (2) He Walked on Water - Randy Travis (Warner Brothers).
2. (3) The Dance - Garth Brooks (Capitol).
3. (4) Go Down the Line - Patty Loveless (MCA).
4. (7) Island - Eddy Raven (Capitol).
5. (6) Cowboy's Dream - Rattlers Heart (RCA).
6. (13) The Richest Man on Earth - Paul O'Duffy (RCA).
7. (12) He Talks to Me - Loretta Morgan (RCA).
8. (10) Good Friends, Good Whiskey - Frank Williams Jr. (Warner Brothers).
9. (1) Walk On - Reba McEntire (MCA).
10. (14) When I Call Your Name - Vince Gill (MCA).

And in UK, Luciano Pavarotti's big hit from the opera "Turandot" fell just short of the top spot in this week's British pop singles record chart.

This week's top 10 singles, as listed by Our Price Music Ltd., the national music retail chain, with last week's places in parentheses:

1. (2) Sacrifice-Healing Hands - Elton John (RCA-Phonogram).
2. (3) Nessun Dorma - Luciano Pavarotti (Decca-Polygram).
3. (4) I Must Have Been Love - Roxette (EMI).
4. (1) World in Motion - England-New Order (Factory-MCA).
5. (9) Oops Up - Snap (Arista-BMG).
6. (15) Close to You - Maxi Priest (10 records).
7. (6) The Only One I Know - Charlatans (Situation Two).
8. (11) Hold On - Wilson Phillips (SBS).
9. (5) Hear the Drummer (Get Wicked) - Chad Jackson (Big Wave).
10. (12) The Only Rhyme That Bites - McTues and Bob State (ZTT).



Charity concert

Ex-Beatle Paul McCartney returned Thursday night to Liverpool where the famous rock foursome was born and staged a concert that rolled back 30 years for 50,000 delighted fans.

"We're going back through the mists of time to a place they call the 60s," he told the cheering capacity audience in the stadium specially built for the concert at the northwest port city's King's Dock Auditorium.

Bright idea Da Vinci-like catnaps

MINNEAPOLIS, Minnesota, June 29. (Reuters) Firemen, rescue workers and emergency personnel on duty for long hours might be sharper if they slept for only 90 minutes a day like Leonardo Da Vinci did, a sleep expert said on Wednesday.

Da Vinci often limited himself to 15-minute naps every four hours in order to increase his productivity, according to Claudio Stampi of the institute of Circadian physiology in Boston.

Stampi said he put a young graphic artist on a Da Vinci-like sleep diet, limiting him to 2.7 hours of sleep a day for three weeks.

While the results have not been fully evaluated, he said, "the preliminary data indicate that napping might prove particularly beneficial in emergency situations."

"If firefighters or rescue workers or even emergency room personnel in hospitals have to remain on duty for extended periods of time, this may provide a means of maintaining a higher level of performance than if they were not to sleep at all for many hours," he said.

Woman testifies against park youths

NEW YORK, June 29. (AP) A woman testified that a gang of youths tried to pull her off a bicycle in Central Park on the night a female jogger was gang-raped and beaten nearly to death in the same area.

Patricia Dean Wednesday said she and her fiancé, Gerald Malone, were riding through the park on a tandem bicycle when 30 youths attacked them.

Dean said the teen-agers saw her and Malone coming, and several moved into the roadway, pulling hoods over their heads and "making animal noises, grunting."

"At that point I was terrified. Jerry aimed the bike at them. As we came through them, they were pulling at us."

She said one youth pulled on her leg and shoulder. "Three on the right were pushing and the whole bike was swerving."

"We just kept going as fast as we could," drove out of the park, found a telephone and called police, Dean said.

Dean testified at the trial in Manhattan's state court of three teen-agers charged with the rape and attempted murder of a female runner the night of April 19, 1989.

The jogger, an investment banker who

was then 28, was gang-raped, beaten, and left naked and near death in a puddle of mud and blood.

She survived, but suffered brain damage and has no recollection of what happened to her that night, assistant district attorney Elizabeth Lederer has said.

Antron McCray, 15, Traymond Santana, 16, and Yusuf Salaam, 16, are charged with attempted murder, rape, sexual abuse, assault, robbery and riot in connection with the attack on the jogger and on two men who were less seriously injured.

Three other youths, Kevin Richardson,

15, Stephen Lopez, 16, and Kharey Wilcox, 17, are to stand trial on the same charges later this year.

Malone, an advertising executive, testified that he could not identify any of the youths in a photograph taken by police suspects in the attacks. But he said a shirt worn in the photo by Richardson was similar to one worn by one of the youths who tried to attack him and Dean.

It was the first time anyone other than participants in the rampage had drawn a link between the defendants and the attacks in the park.

PEOPLE AND PLACES

UNITED NATIONS: The world's population is estimated at 5.3 billion and will increase by 60 per cent to 8.5 billion by the year 2025, according to the latest United Nations data published on Wednesday.

During 1990 alone, the total is projected to rise by 92 million.

In its biennial fine-tuning of demographic statistics, the UN Population Division said the world population was growing at around 1.7 per cent a year but by the period 2020-2025 the annual average rate might decrease to one per cent.

(Reuters)



The Queen Mother watches the parade in her honour June 27 during her birthday tribute. (Reuters wirephoto)

Queen Mum turns 90

LONDON, June 29. (AP) Queen Mother Elizabeth celebrated her 90th birthday with military bands, a parade of peers, a gardener carrying a flowerpot and a skeleton wheeled on a platform.

American model Jerry Hall and an Aberdeen-Angus bull were also among participants in Wednesday night's parade, which represented the interests of the Queen Mother, widow of King George VI and mother of Queen Elizabeth II, who will be 90 on Aug 4.

She told an invited audience of 10,000 at Horse Guards Parade in central London that she was deeply touched that so many people had gone to such trouble to join in "this splendid gathering."

Five hundred military musicians and 1,500 marching personnel were from military units associated with the Queen Mother, and 4,500 civilians represented hundreds of organisations with which she has built up personal links over 70 years of public life.

Ms Hall, wife of Rolling Stones singer Mick Jagger, appeared with actress Susan Hampshire — both in crinolines and picture hats — to represent the National Trust, which preserves historic buildings and countryside.

Offer for tips on 'Zodiac' killer \$10,000 reward

NEW YORK, June 29. (AP) More than a thousand callers have flooded a police hotline with reports they saw or spoke to the "Zodiac" gunman, but none has produced a firm lead, police said.

Mayor David N. Dinkins has offered a \$10,000 reward for information leading to the arrest and conviction of the gunman, who has promised a death for each sign of the Zodiac and already has killed one man and wounded three others since March 8.

Investigators on the Zodiac task force are using a sophisticated computer system to keep track of the hotline calls.

"What the computerised system enables us to do is make sure we capture all the tips, all the information that comes in, and gives us a chance to pull it up rapidly," police commissioner Lee P. Brown said Wednesday.

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LILLE, France: A Court Clerk has received a four-month suspended prison sentence for stealing Charles De Gaulle's birth certificate from the office where she worked.

Paulette Derivaux, 51, was convicted Wednesday of taking the certificate home with her last October and replacing it with a photocopy.

One of her duties at a high court office in Lille was to assure the safekeeping of legal documents.

(AP)

NEW YORK: The stage where black nationalist leader Malcolm X was slain will be preserved under a plan to build a 25 million-dollar biomedical research laboratory at the site of the Audubon ballroom in Harlem.

The New York City planning commission approved the laboratory construction Wednesday with the provision that a substantial portion of the existing building be preserved.

That includes 40 percent of the Audubon ballroom and the stage on which Malcolm X was shot on Feb. 21, 1965. (AP)

HOLISTON: A federal judge set at \$6.8 million the value of an art cache that includes four watercolour paintings by a young Adolf Hitler.

The cache, seized by the US Army in 1945 in Germany, also has photographic archives of pre-war Europe and Nazi Germany.

US district Judge Lynn N. Hughes also ruled Tuesday that the items could have produced more than \$1.1 million in income through the sale of reproductions during the years of legal wrangling over their ownership. (AP)

More coffee, more time to conceive

LONDON, June 29. (Kuna): Women who drink more than four cups of coffee a day may be lengthening the time it takes them to conceive a child, a study published here today suggests.

The findings say heavy coffee drinkers are 80 per cent more likely to have failed to become pregnant within a year than non-drinkers.

The study from the US, which was supported by specialists here, said that times for conception were longer for the 129 women who were interviewed and who drank four or more cups of coffee per day.

The average time for conception for non-coffee drinkers was 4.84 months, while for those drinking four or more cups a day it was 6.65 months, the British media said.

No biological mechanism is advanced for any delay in conception, but some previous studies have suggested coffee may interfere with ovulation, or with implantation into the womb lining.

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INTERNATIONAL

Barry tape stops DC

Shows mayor smoking crack

WASHINGTON, June 29, (UPI): Crowds gathered around television sets throughout the nation's capital to watch the long-awaited tape that shows Mayor Marion Barry lighting up a crack pipe in a downtown hotel room and inhaling deeply.

The 90-minute videotape, which also shows FBI agents storming the room and arresting the mayor, was shown on local television about 2 pm yesterday as soon as it was entered into evidence in federal court.

Testimony in Barry's trial on cocaine and perjury charges will now turn to the credibility of former model Rasheeda Moore, who lured the three-term mayor to the Vista International Hotel Jan 18.

Defence lawyer R. Kenneth Mundy was to continue his cross-examination of Moore, the mayor's former girlfriend, when testimony resumes. He said following court yesterday that Moore instigated the



Galeano also known as Franklin waves his rifle June 27 in the presence of President Chamorro and Cardinal Miguel Obando y Bravo before turning over his rifle to the United Nations Peace Keeping Forces. (Reuters wirephoto)



Members of the Contra high command wait for their turns to turn in their weapons. (Reuters wirephoto)

Top Contras finally disarm

Helicopters collide

SAN PEDRO DE LOVAGO, Nicaragua, June 29, (AP): After nine years of civil war that killed an estimated 30,000 people, Nicaragua is finally at peace.

"I feel proud and happy as a Nicaraguan woman and mother because the boys have turned over their arms so Nicaragua can live in peace," President Violeta Barrios de Chamorro said Wednesday after a ceremony in which top Contra rebel leaders gave up their weapons.

"We're going to disarm everyone peacefully, without hate and without resentment," she added.

During the ceremony formally ending the war, about 100 rebel commanders turned over surface-to-air missiles and automatic rifles to international observers from the United Nations and Organization of American States.

The international force destroyed the Contra weapons with blowtorches on the spot in San Pedro de Lovago, about 100 miles (160 kms) east of Managua, the capital.

"Today the war ends," presidential spokesman Danilo Lacayo said.

The Contra commanders were led by Israel Galeano, who had turned over a first batch of weapons, including 62 US-made Red Eye missiles, to the head of the UN-OAS force, Gen. Agustín Quisada.

"We hope this signifies that peace will endure in Nicaragua," Galeano told the Spanish general on Wednesday.

"It is an honour to say to the

Nicaraguan people: 'Mission accomplished. The struggle has been to establish a government of laws in this country.' Galeano said as he handed over his own rifle.

The Contras, an army of about 18,000 men trained and supported by the United States, claims credit for forcing the former Sandinista government to call the Feb 25 election that Chamorro won.

Chamorro pledged during the ceremony to ask local officials nationwide to "tell me in writing" where Sandinista arms caches were hidden.

After losing the election to Chamorro and her conservative coalition, the Sandinistas allegedly distributed tens of thousands of automatic weapons to civilian supporters, urging them to "defend the conquests" of the Sandinista revolution.

Meanwhile, two helicopters loaded with journalists collided Wednesday as they returned from a Contra demobilization ceremony in the countryside. A witness said several people were badly injured.

"In all the years I've covered the war, I've never felt so close to death," said Ernesto Mejia, an Associated Press photographer aboard one of the helicopters. "It seemed unreal, to end the war almost dying."

There were unofficial reports that at least 14 people had been hospitalised. A spokesman for the presidential press office said authorities were still compiling a list of the injured several hours after the crash.

drug use the night of the sting. "I think she brought up the subject," Mundy said after his initial questioning of Moore, who testified earlier she used cocaine with Barry more than 100 times over three years.

Throughout the District of Columbia, in Hecht's department store, the district building, and the police headquarters, heads turned and fingers pointed at television sets showing the grainy black and white tape.

In the Senate press gallery, located a few blocks from the courthouse, reporters, Senate doorkeepers and aides crowded around sets that were switched between the tape and congressional proceedings.

A silent courtroom watched as Barry and Moore lounged around the hotel room talking, hugging and kissing at one point and then as Moore bought crack from an undercover FBI agent posing as a friend. In the most gripping part of the tape, Barry picked up the crack pipe and asked how it worked when he received no directions, he lit the drug and inhaled.

"How does this work?" Barry asked Moore.

"What?" Moore said.

Barry: "I don't know how this works, how's this work. I never done it before."

Moore: "That's what we used to do all the time, what are you talking about?"

Barry: "I'm new, we never done that before, give me a break."

Moore, 39, repeatedly refused to use the crack, telling Barry she would do so after he was finished. As she paced around the room, Barry lifted the pipe off a table and brought a light to it. With his head slightly raised he brought the pipe to his mouth and inhaled, holding his breath for about six seconds.

Moore asked if he was all right, but he remained silent, smoking a second time with the same slow motion.

"You don't want to take another one?" Moore asked.

"No, you're crazy?" Barry responded. "Let's go downstairs."

As he grabbed his coat and walked to the door, between six and eight FBI agents and police came crashing into the room from behind the camera.

"Police. FBI. Barry. You're under arrest," they yelled.

"Alright. No problem," Barry said.

"OK, Mr Mayor? We'd like you to put your hands on the wall," an officer told him.

"That was a good setup, wasn't it?" Barry said. "I don't have anything. I didn't do anything. I shouldn't have come up here. I'll be damned. How'd I get tricked into this stuff?"

The mayor then asked, "what am I arrested for?"

"You're arrested for violation of narcotics laws of the District of Columbia," an FBI agent responded.

As he was being questioned during the final part of the tape, Barry sat on the hotel bed dressed in a white shirt, tie and suspenders.

Senate keeps weapon curbs in crime bill

WASHINGTON, June 29, (AP): The Senate voted yesterday for tougher penalties for firearms violations, beating back an effort to scrap curbs on nine semi-automatic assault weapons.

"The drug traffickers have not stopped using assault weapons, they're not going to stop using assault weapons but at least we can stop them from using these assault weapons," said Sen. Dennis DeConcini, an Arizona Democrat.

The Senate voted 50-48 in favour of keeping the restrictions as the members resurrected a broad crime bill. After that vote, it went on to add tougher mandatory sentences to the bill by an 87-12 vote.

The bill appeared dead several weeks ago when the curbs on semi-automatic weapons were accepted.

Sen. Phil Gramm, a Texas Republican, had urged the Senate to drop the restrictions in favour of tougher mandatory sentences for gun-related offences.

On the US side of the border, the Americans blame their car horns. Signs perched on their cars read: "Control our border" and "Stop illegal immigration."

Once a month, Americans drive to the dusty line separating San Diego and the Mexican border town of Tijuana to take part in a growing protest movement

against the large number of illegal immigrants who enter the United States each day.

As many as 1,000 motorists have taken part at times in the "light up the border campaign," which began with a few cars last year. The movement wants the authorities to string lights along the frontier to prevent illegal immigrants crossing under cover of darkness.

US border patrol agents arrest an average of 1,500 illegal immigrants a day in the San Diego area, the busiest crossing area along the 2,000-mile (3,200-km) border.

Most of the immigrants are seeking jobs in the United States, ready to work for as little as two dollars an hour



Smoking crack

In a video tape played for the jury in Washington Mayor Marion Barry's cocaine trial, the mayor is shown allegedly smoking crack (cocaine) in a hotel room. Barry was lured to the hotel by former lover Rasheeda Moore (right with Barry)



who was co-operating with FBI and local authorities in an undercover drug operation. (Reuters wirephoto)

New gene test for diabetes

Doctors can predict more accurately juvenile cases

BOSTON, June 29, (UPI): A new blood test that identifies a gene associated with juvenile diabetes should allow doctors to more accurately predict which children may get the disease, scientists said.

Researchers at the University of Texas Southwestern Medical centre in Dallas said the test is five times more accurate than existing genetic screens for juvenile diabetes, which affects about one in 200 people in the United States.

But Dr J. Donald Capra cautioned that the test can determine only whether a child has a higher than usual chance of developing the disease — not whether he or she definitely will get it.

Among 266 patients with juvenile diabetes, only six had a so-called "dominant protection" gene which appears to guard against the development of the disease, the researchers said in the study, published in the New England Journal of Medicine.

But among 203 people who were in normal health, 74 had the gene. Capra said the finding means children who have the gene are very unlikely to develop juvenile diabetes, which usually appears between the ages of 8 and 16.

In contrast, a gene associated with greater susceptibility to juvenile diabetes was found in 154 of the diabetes patients but only 38 of those without the disease, the study said.

Capra said the research indicates that the population can be divided in thirds, with one-third facing a five to 10 times increased risk because of the presence of a susceptibility gene.

Because previous research has shown that even an identical twin of a person with juvenile diabetes has only 50-50 chance of developing the disease, Capra said, no genetic test ever will be able to predict whether a person will get diabetes with any certainty.

Medical file

Britain's effort: Britain's effort to conquer the common cold has ended in defeat, almost half a century after research began in London into the ailment, which afflicts millions of people each year.

The UK's common cold research centre in Salisbury, southern England, is closing down this weekend after 45 years, when the local council's funding of 300,000 pounds a year ceases on Saturday.

There has never been a shortage of volunteers at the centre, who arrived, were given a cold, quarantined and tested for two weeks.

Many treated the place like a holiday camp, returning year after year.

And one couple even spent their honeymoon at the centre, happily sniffing through two weeks in a but equipped with a colour television, dartboard and picturesque view of rolling fields outside. (Kura)

Dystrophy treatment: An experimental muscular dystrophy therapy has proven safe and feasible for treating large muscles, a researcher says.

Immature muscle cells were injected into the biceps of three patients, who have shown no side effects, said Dr George Karpati in New York. But it will take months to find out whether the therapy succeeds in improving muscle strength, he said.

Karpati, of the Montreal Neurological Institute, was expected to announce the results on feasibility and safety Wednesday at a news conference. The muscular dystrophy association said it was the first such demonstration in a large muscle.

The experimental procedure is aimed at duchenne muscular dystrophy, a genetic muscle-destroying dis-

ease that disables in childhood and kills in young adulthood from destruction of respiratory muscles. (AP)

Abortion pill: The American Medical Association overwhelmingly supported testing and possible use of a controversial French abortion pill.

"Merely because it's offensive to some people socially because of one effect is not a reason not to investigate it thoroughly," said Dr Arthur D. Silk, an internist from Garden Grove, California.

Members of the AMA, the nation's largest doctors association, say the pill — called RU-486 — appears to be safer and cheaper than surgical abortion and may cure brain tumors, breast cancer and other illnesses.

"The abortion issue, pro and con should not interfere with our ability to conduct all kinds of investigations for all kinds of problems," said Dr Charles Sherman a surgeon from Rochester, New York, who chaired the AMA committee that recommended support for RU-486. (AP)

Toxic shock syndrome: Changes in tampons have led to a 93 per cent drop in toxic shock syndrome since 1980, when the disease was linked to tampon use, federal officials say in Atlanta.

Just 61 cases of toxic shock syndrome were reported last year, compared with 890 cases in 1980, the Centers for Disease Control said Thursday.

Toxic shock, a bacterial infection found most often in menstruation-age women, was linked especially to the most absorbent brands of tampons.

Car blast kills 14 in Medellin

30 hurt in explosion: injured, dead mostly children

BOGOTA, Colombia, June 29, (AP): A car bombing in front of a Medellin police station killed 14 people and injured 30 more as it ignited nearby cars trapping and burning the passengers inside, authorities said.

People screamed and cried hysterically, searching for loved ones.

"They've done me in. They've done me in. They killed my son," a man screamed as he dropped to the ground weeping.

Yesterday morning's blast destroyed at least 10 cars and left a crater (1.5 metres) five feet deep and (3.6 metres) 12 feet wide, Mazalan said. It also damaged a number of nearby stores.

Four of those killed as well as many of the wounded were children, Medellin police chief Col Jorge Ferrero said in a communique.

No one claimed responsibility for the bombing, but authorities blame the Medellin drug traffickers who are waging a terror campaign

of bombings and assassinations in Colombia's second largest city.

On Wednesday night, security forces deactivated a car bomb loaded with a half-ton of dynamite in a parking lot near a Medellin municipal office building, police said.

In yesterday's attack, witnesses saw a man running away from a compact car parked in front of the police station minutes before the bomb exploded at about 11.30 am, according to radio reports.

Police said the small Sedan with false license plates was packed with an estimated 150 kilograms (330 pounds) of dynamite.

"We heard a tremendous roar," a local businessman said in an interview with the radio network Caracol. "Several people were trapped in their cars and were burned up or blown apart by the explosion."

Another unidentified witness told the radio network RCN: "The only thing I felt was a

huge explosion that threw me from my car."

Four people were pronounced dead at the scene and the others dead in hospitals, Bernardo Guerra, president of the Medellin government's emergency committee, told RCN.

The dead included Miriam Nasa Sampayo, a reporter for the Caracol network, a policeman, and the wife and two children of a federal senator from Medellin representing the governing Liberal Party, Ferrero said.

Guerra said 30 people were injured, and many of them were in critical condition. One of those injured was a policeman.

The blast went off minutes after Ferrero was sworn in as Medellin's new police chief at a police base several miles away. He took over from Gen. Humberto Camero as part of a major shakeup of the Colombian police force this month.



Colombian firemen and police inspect the remains of a car after the car bomb exploded killing 14 people in Medellin June 28. (Reuters wirephoto)



Colombian military police overlook June 27 the Medellin neighbourhood of Aranjuez from a bunker set up atop a military base. (Reuters wirephoto)

Cars light up US-Mexican border in protest against illegal immigrants

SAN DIEGO, California, June 29, (Reuters): As darkness falls the headlights of 300 cars suddenly blaze across the US border into Mexico, where around 100 Mexicans and their supporters hold up mirrors and sheets of plastic to reflect the lights back to the north.

"Go home, racistas — go back to Europe," the Mexicans shout.

On the US side of the border, the Americans blame their car horns. Signs perched on their cars read: "Control our border" and "Stop illegal immigration."

Once a month, Americans drive to the dusty line separating San Diego and the Mexican border town of Tijuana to take part in a growing protest movement

against the large number of illegal immigrants who enter the United States each day.

As many as 1,000 motorists have taken part at times in the "light up the border campaign," which began with a few cars last year. The movement wants the authorities to string lights along the frontier to prevent illegal immigrants crossing under cover of darkness.

US border patrol agents arrest an average of 1,500 illegal immigrants a day in the San Diego area, the busiest crossing area along the 2,000-mile (3,200-km) border.

Most of the immigrants are seeking jobs in the United States, ready to work for as little as two dollars an hour

factories.

In Los Angeles and other cities in southern California, local people pick up the immigrants at street corners each day for work.

But those seeking to restrict the "illegals" say they are also concerned by the increasing drug traffic across the border from Mexico.

US border agents last year made 5,441 drug seizures with a street value of \$1.2 billion. In 1982 they made 480 drug seizures with a street value of \$5 million.

The former mayor of San Diego who now runs the city's best known radio talk show.

A listener telephoned Hedgecock on his show to suggest a "light up the border" campaign and Hedgecock adopted it as his own, using his show to call on Americans to join him in the monthly protest.

Not everybody on the San Diego side of the border is happy about the protest campaign, however.

"My Mexican friends are furious," Ruth Walker, member of a cross-border cultural group, said. "It's an insult of the thing... it feels almost racist."

"We're not racist," Muriel Watson, the widow of a border patrol agent and an organiser of the campaign, said. "Three thousand illegal aliens cross into our country each night. This is a violent place."

A vacancy for the post of Chief Technician exists in the Dept. of Biochemistry. Applicants for the post should have a minimum qualification of a B.Sc. in Electronic Engineering or equivalent with 10 years' experience in operation and maintenance of Analytical Instruments. Experience in management, supervision and training of Technical Staff is essential. Apply indicating qualifications and experience to the Head of Department at the following address:

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Arctic should be better monitored

NEW YORK, June 29, (AP): A vast area of the Arctic lost about 15 per cent of its ice in 11 years, showing the region should be better monitored for signs of global warming, a study suggests.

The decline is large for an area where scientists had thought it was consistently thick, said researcher Peter Wadhams.

But he said it is impossible to know whether global warming played any role.

Scientists predict a global warming because of buildup of gases such as carbon dioxide in the atmosphere. The gases trap solar energy the earth otherwise would radiate into space.

Such a warming could lead to hotter summers, altered rainfall patterns that could disrupt agriculture, and flooding in coastal areas, scientists say.

Wadhams, of the University of Cambridge in England, presented his Arctic ice study in yesterday's issue of the British journal Nature.

Using data from submarine-based studies in 1976 and 1982, Wadhams calculated changes within a 112,000-square-mile (290,000-square-kilometre) triangle north of Greenland.

Wadhams studied the thickness of the submerged portion of huge floating chunks of sea ice, which is considered a good indicator of total ice thickness.

He found that average thickness dropped from 17.5 feet (5.3 metres) in 1976 to 14.9 feet (4.5 metres) in 1982, about a 13-per cent decrease.

The missing ice did not necessarily melt away.

Wadhams suggested that the ice may have broken apart in months before the 1987 reading. That would leave open water, which would freeze in relatively thin ice and reduce overall average thickness.

Such a mechanism would have nothing to do with global warming, said John Walsh, a University of Illinois meteorology professor, who said other factors may also have contributed.

"The jury's still out on this," Walsh said.

Wadhams wrote that thinning of Arctic ice is expected to be an early sign of global warming. He said it is impossible to tell whether global warming plays any role in his findings, because he lacks data from between two years he sampled or from years since 1987.

The findings show that scientists must do more extensive monitoring to determine if Arctic ice is getting progressively thinner or whether changes like the one he found are simply natural variations, he said.

A Nature editorial called the findings "provocative," and agreed that more studies will be needed.

Chinese officials said yesterday they will recommend that their government join a 5-nation treaty to protect the ozone layer, a major step toward halting the erosion of the earth's protective shield.

But India, leading a group of developing nations at an international ozone conference, said it would not sign unless industrialised countries guarantee they would share new technology.

The head of the US Environmental Protection Agency said meanwhile, that a recent US report on global warming was insufficient to convince the United States to take action.

"The Chinese government was seriously considering acceding to the protocol," Kangzu Wang, deputy administrator of China's environmental protection agency, told reporters at a briefing (AP).

The anticipated increase in global temperatures will result in vast changes to the world's wetlands, home to many rare plants and animals and the source of much of the world's fish, a leading conservationist said Wednesday.

Martin Holdgate, director general of the World Conservation Union, told a conference that global warming and the resulting rise in sea levels in the next century would alter the geological location of wetlands.

In turn, this would mean a "bigger shift in a shorter period than the world's flora and fauna has had to respond to before known biological history," said in an opening address.

PHILIPPINES



Mourners carrying a coffin with the remains of a suspected communist rebel flee down a Manila street June 28 after masked gunmen believed to be soldiers fired on their funeral. (Reuters wirephoto).

Communists vow to avenge Attack on funeral

Peace Corps leaves Manila

MANILA, Philippines, June 29. (AP) Communist rebels today vowed to avenge the military attack on the funeral of a fallen comrade.

Friday, charges were filed against 21 people arrested yesterday after troops wearing masks and civilian clothes fired on the funeral procession for Benjamin Tabuena, 42, a member of a rebel assassination squad killed by police last week. Two mourners, including a pallbearer, were killed.

In a statement Friday, the Alex Boncayao Brigade, the Manila branch of the rebel New People's Army, condemned the military for "utter disregard of the traditional respect the Filipinos accord their dead."

"We warn those responsible that any escalation of violence will be dealt with accordingly," the statement said. "The revolutionary justice the people demand will not go unheeded."

On Friday, police charged the 21 with inciting to sedition. Three of them were identified as Alex Boncayao Brigade members and would face additional charges, police said.

"They are openly displaying their flag and openly displaying their revolutionary intent which is against the law," said Brig. Gen. Marino Filar, chief of the capital command. "This will stop other plans for further assassination."

Police Lt Col George Alino said the shooting erupted when mourners tried to throw grenades at police. But news photographers and other witnesses said they saw no grenades.

The witnesses said the masked gunmen were hiding behind gravestones as the marchers approached the main gate of the city's north cemetery carrying communist banners, placards and Tabuena's coffin.

About five gunmen then emerged, fired warning shots and opened fire on two mourners who tried to flee. Mourners dropped Tabuena's casket, which flew open. Tabuena was later buried by cemetery employees on orders from the military.

The Philippine Constabulary appointed a board of officers Friday to investigate the incident.

Some gunmen seized film and cameras from news photographers at gunpoint. The masked gunmen rounded up male mourners, searched them at gunpoint and hustled them away.

A policeman at a nearby precinct said two capital command officers brought 21 people alleged to be rebels to the station. The policeman refused to give his name.

Tabuena was a member of the Alex Boncayao Brigade, the Manila wing of the New People's Army.

Jury sits for Imelda trial verdict

Aiding or abetting an offence is as guilty as committed, says Judge Keenan

NEW YORK, June 29. (AP) An American jury has begun deliberating whether former Philippines first lady Imelda Marcos looted her country of \$22 million and secretly invested it in the United States with help from Saudi financier Adnan Khashoggi.



Imelda arrives at US district court with her lawyer Spence, June 28. (Reuters wirephoto)



Khashoggi arrives at US district court in Manhattan June 27, where he is being tried. (Reuters wirephoto)

The panel of seven men and five women was given the case yesterday after hearing instructions from US District Judge John F. Keenan. They were excused late in the afternoon after deliberating for nearly two hours and were expected to resume tomorrow (Friday).

As the jury left the courtroom to begin deliberations, family members and supporters embraced Mrs. Marcos, the widow of Ferdinand Marcos, who held power in the Philippines until the 1986 "people power" revolution that catapulted Corason Aquino to the presidency.

Mrs. Marcos, who turns 61 on Monday, said to a reporter, "pray for me a happy birthday."

She faces up to 50 years in prison and a \$1 million fine if convicted of all charges, which include racketeering, racketeering conspiracy, mail fraud and obstructing justice.

The jurors also are considering mail fraud and obstruction of justice charges against Khashoggi.

The jury began its private deliberations after weeks of testimony by witnesses for the prosecution and defence. In his instructions, the judge told the jury it must consider how much Mrs. Marcos knew - or didn't know - of alleged crimes by her husband.

But he added that she can be found guilty if she deliberately "closed her eyes" to whether stolen money was used for investments in the United States.

Mrs. Marcos' knowledge was a central theme in closing arguments by both sides earlier in the week.

The prosecutor, assistant US

attorney Charles I. Labella, said the former Philippine first lady had to know "dirty money" was used to buy four New York buildings, jewellery and art work.

Her attorney, Gerry Spence, denied that she was aware of the transactions and said the case was a prosecutor's fantasy.

Keenan, in his 84-page instructions, said the jurors can convict Mrs. Marcos only if they find her guilt was proven "beyond a reasonable doubt."

In addressing the racketeering charges, the judge said the government did not have to prove that Mrs. Marcos herself committed the fraud.

"A person who aids or abets the

commission of an offense is just as guilty of that offense as if he or she committed it himself or herself," he said. "Of course, the mere presence of a defendant where a crime is being committed, even coupled with knowledge that a crime is occurring... is not sufficient to establish aiding and abetting."

Mrs. Marcos is alleged to have helped her late husband, former Philippine president Ferdinand Marcos, embezzle \$22 million from their country's treasury, using the money for secret investments and spending sprees.

Khashoggi, 54, allegedly served as a front for the Marcoses to conceal ownership of the four New York

buildings, and art works after they were ousted from power in February 1986 and the new Philippine government sued to recover their riches. He could draw a 10-year prison term and \$500,000 in fines if convicted.

Marcos attorney Gerry Spence portrayed his client as an unquestioning wife of 35-years who was unfamiliar with her husband's dealings and who was not a thief.

With a possible reference to Mrs. Marcos' bouts with illness, which three times prompted interruptions in the trial, Judge Keenan said, "you must not be influenced by any assumption, conjecture or sympathy or any inference not warranted by the facts unless proven to your satisfaction."

Even Spence claimed she was not making a sympathy play, that she wanted to see the trial through and be vindicated.

However, she came daily dressed in a variety of all-black outfits mourning the death of her husband in September - with black pearl earrings and black handkerchief, a black rosary and black pumps.

In closing arguments on Wednesday, Khashoggi's attorney told jurors there was no evidence to make a felon on the former billionaire Saudi Arabian arms dealer.

"Khashoggi didn't do anything but lose on his whole thing," said James Linn, in his final summations in US district court in Manhattan.

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US officials said most of the 261 Peace Corps volunteers assigned in remote villages had been recalled to Manila and were beginning to depart yesterday.

"I think it's rather hasty," Defence Secretary Fidel Ramos told reporters of the US decision.

Asked if there were specific threats against the volunteers, Ramos said, "not that we have found out from our own agencies and we have only been given a general informal statement by the US embassy."

Major Gen Rodolfo Biazon, armed forces deputy chief, said the Philippine military was not informed beforehand of the decision.

"They can do what they want to do with their nationals," Biazon said.

But Aquino's national security adviser, retired Gen Rafael Ilete, conceded, "we cannot protect each and every individual here."

At least 10 US citizens have been killed in the Philippines in the past three years in attacks blamed on the 19,000-member NPA, which has been waging a 21-year rebellion.

Two of the victims were airmen shot to death last May outside the US Clark Air Base. The NPA took responsibility for the slayings of the airmen and vowed to assassinate more US citizens until Washington dismantled its six facilities in the Philippines.

The lease on the bases, manned by 40,000 troops, civilian employees and dependents, expires in 1991. Initial talks to extend the lease were held last month and were to resume in late August.

"This was clearly a very difficult decision," said a US official, speaking on condition of anonymity. "This has to be balanced by fear of an American Peace Corps volunteer being killed or kidnapped."

He said there was a genuine concern that because of tighter security thrown on potential US military and diplomatic personnel, the NPA would now strike against Peace Corps workers who were vulnerable because of the remoteness of their assignments.

Attempted jail-break, 4 killed

MANILA, June 29. (UPI) Police shot and killed four suspected robbers who attempted to flee their police station cell today, authorities said.

The four tried to overpower a jail guard after they were allowed out of their cell to use the toilet, said police Lt. Manolo Martinez, commander of the Luneta Park detachment.

Other policemen tried to subdue the prisoners, but when they resisted, police opened fire, killing the suspects, Martinez said.

The four were arrested Tuesday during a holdup in Manila, police said.

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INTERNATIONAL

Low pay, layoffs hit China stability

WASHINGTON, June 29, (AP) — Layoffs and lower pay for workers have undermined social stability in China after last year's military march into Tiananmen Square, the CIA told Congress yesterday.

It predicted that part of a 15 percent increase in military spending will go to raise pay and bolster troop morale after several years of inflation running over 10 per cent. When inflation is taken into account, it will be the first increase of military spending in six years.

"A significant portion ... probably will also go to purchasing new equipment, such as riot-control gear for military rapid-reaction units, and repaying the operational costs incurred by the military in enforcing martial law in Beijing and Lhasa during 1989," the report said.

It gave a dark view of China's situation.

"Growing unemployment — which has reached its highest level in a decade — and falling urban living standards are undermining Beijing's efforts to re-establish the country's social stability, which remains tenuous a year following the government's suppression of the pro-democracy demonstrations," it said.

The report of the Central Intelligence Agency was given to a meeting of the joint economic committee of Congress.

It quoted a Hong Kong press report, not further identified, as saying that there were more than 600 cases of worker unrest in China in the last half of 1989. They included strikes, slowdowns, demonstrations and rallies.

"According to many accounts, layoffs have created an embittered and volatile class of unemployed workers," it went on.

It estimated that 60 to 80 million workers have no regular jobs but move from place to place.

Sen. Jeff Bingaman, who presided at the hearing, said that if the CIA assessment is correct, China's economy is in cold storage.

"The reform movement has been frozen part way between central planning and a free market," he added.

The CIA said that China's national income grew less than 4 per cent last year compared with about 12 per cent a year earlier, according to the government's own statistics. In the first five months of the year, China's industry was increasing production at a rate of less than 2 per cent annually.

The government's budget deficit grew to a record \$8 billion, though it is small compared with the deficit in many other countries.

Prospects are dim for China to return to an all-out move toward a market economy, the report said. That is the direction being taken by Eastern European countries formerly under communist rule.

Sacked
■ China removed Agriculture Minister He Kang yesterday, ending a seven-year tenure, and replaced him with a senior agricultural economist, the state-run media reported.

The official Xinhua news agency said He, 67, was replaced during a meeting of the ruling standing committee of the National People's Congress, China's nominal Parliament, and his successor was proposed by Premier Li Peng. (UPI)

Asylum
■ An official at the Chinese embassy defected yesterday, claiming he feared retribution for his political beliefs, according to a refugee group.

Marion Lee of the Australian Indochinese Refugee Association, which deals with Chinese refugee issues, said the 29-year-old man, who was not identified by name, was seeking political asylum.

He had been in Australia for 19 months and held the position of chief landscape officer at the new multimillion-dollar Chinese embassy complex. (AP)

■ China criticised the Australian government yesterday for granting four-year residence extensions to Chinese students in Australia, warning the move could harm educational exchanges between the two nations.

"The so-called saying that Chinese students will return home and be persecuted is totally untenable," said Foreign Ministry spokesman Jin Guishua at a weekly news briefing.

The Australian government said Wednesday it would grant four-year temporary residence permits to about 20,000 Chinese students who were in Australia June 20, 1989, following the Chinese crackdown that month on the democracy movement. (UPI)



New imperial bride Kiko bids farewell to her father Tatsuhiko as she leaves home for wedding ceremony June 29. (Reuters wirephoto)



Newly-wed Prince Aya followed by his Princess Kiko arrives at their new home in Akasaka Palace after their wedding ceremony June 29. (Reuters wirephoto)



Prince Aya walks down the Imperial Palace balcony in an ancient official court dress to wed his sweetheart. (Reuters wirephoto)



Kiko dressed in an ancient twelve-layered costume and helped by a court lady walks down the Imperial Palace balcony to attend the wedding ritual. (Reuters wirephoto)

Boat people still flee

Facing forced return or pushoffs

HO CHI MINH CITY, June 29, (AP) — With attitudes hardening all around, Vietnam's boat people increasingly face the prospects of being pushed back to sea or returned to the land they risked their lives to flee.

Aid officials say Malaysia has rebuffed about 8,700 Vietnamese from its shores in the past year, indirectly causing some deaths. Other southeast Asian nations implicitly have threatened the same unless the United States by July 1 stops opposing the forced repatriation of those Vietnamese judged to be economic migrants.

Despite the increasing hostility, there appears to be little let-up in the exodus, in which more than 1.5 million people have fled since the communist takeover of South Vietnam in April 1975. The desire to flee is so strong that Western officials commonly talk of Vietnam's "exodus mentality."

"If you go to some of the provinces in the south, leaving by boat is part of life there," said Kai Nielsen, the representative in Ho Chi Minh City of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees. "People get arrested every day for trying to leave. There are some people who have tried 10 to 15 times."

"In my age group, all my friends are leaving by boat," said a government employee, 30, who may follow them. "A close friend who left in 1979 and came back to visit last year said it's very sad to live outside your native land, but it's better to be in a country where you can study and have a job."

At risk is the collapse of the comprehensive plan of action adopted a year ago at an international conference in Geneva. That committed countries to give refuge to all boat people who are then screened to separate refugees from people fleeing political persecution from migrants simply seeking economic improvement. Western countries are to resettle the refugees.

But the large majority of boat people are economic migrants who will strain the region's camps indefinitely because the United States and Vietnam oppose their forced return. That and the arrival of 16,718 Vietnamese in 1989 — an eight-year high — turned Malaysia from one of the most generous asylum nations into the most heartless.

"The perception is that there is little to lose in breaking the rules and a big price to pay for following them," said a Western diplomat.

A total of 11,722 Vietnamese arrived in the region the first four months of this year down from 18,351 the same period last year, according to UNHCR figures. That brought the camp population to more than 117,000.



Fang to pursue career

Chinese dissident scientist Fang Lihui delivers a statement to the press on June 29 on the steps of the Royal Society in London. Fang released on Monday from China will pursue his academic work as an astrophysicist. Next to Fang stands the Royal Society's president Sir George Porter and VP Francis Graham-Smith. (Reuters wirephoto)

Typhoon Percy wrecks 30,000 homes in Philippines, moves into South China Sea

MANILA, Philippines, June 29, (AP) — Typhoon Percy roared into the South China Sea Thursday after destroying or damaging the houses of more than 32,800 people in at least seven northern Luzon Island Provinces, officials said.

There were no immediate reports of casualties. A spokeswoman for the Office of Civil Defence said many communications lines to the northern provinces had been cut by the two typhoons that hit the area since last week.

The state-run Philippine Information Agency in the northern city of Baguio reported that 400 vehi-

cles carrying passengers and farm goods had been stranded after a landslide destroyed a 50-metre (165-foot) section of mountain road in Benguet province.

Percy whipped the northern tip of Luzon with winds of 150 kilometres (94 miles) per hour and heavy rain, the Manila Weather Bureau said.

At 11 am (0200 GMT Wednesday), Percy was located 330 kilometres (206 miles) west of northern Batan island, or about 670 kilometres (420 miles) northwest of Manila, it added.

Percy gained strength over the South China Sea,

with sustained winds of 10 kilometres (100 miles) an hour and gusts of up to 185 kilometres (115 miles) an hour. It was moving northwest at 22 kilometres (14 miles) an hour.

Last week, Typhoon Ofelia hit northern Luzon, killing nearly 60 people and forcing more than 209,000 to flee to safe ground.

In Manila, Percy caused a landslide that buried six shanties and killed an 83-year-old woman in suburban Quezon city Monday night, officials said. No other casualties have been reported.

Prince Aya marries college sweetheart

'New wind blowing in the imperial household'

TOKYO, June 29, (AP) — Kneeling before an altar to the sun goddess and sipping sacred rice wine, Emperor Akihito's youngest son, Prince Aya, wed his college sweetheart this morning.

The prince's marriage to 23-year-old Kiko Kawashima, the daughter of a college professor, made her only the second commoner to marry into Japan's ancient royal family.

Akihito hailed it as an important step into the new imperial era that

began with the death last year of Emperor Hirohito. Hours after the rites, about 30,000 people lined the streets to cheer the motorcade carrying Aya and his princess, still wearing her diamond tiara, in the first major festivities of the new era.

"This is a very happy event," Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu told reporters. "It will be like a new wind blowing in the imperial household."



Well-wishers wave Japanese flags to would-be-imperial bride Kiko (left, inside car) departing from her home for the Imperial Palace where she married Prince Aya. (Reuters wirephoto)

Law enforcement

Japanese style treatment

TOKYO, June 29, (Reuters) — Police arrested Junko Nakano on suspicion of setting fire to a warehouse. She says she was twice stripped, her genitals were searched and she was interrogated for up to 10 hours a day for 23 days in succession.

"You can't imagine the humiliation of being treated worse than a dog, having a police officer hold on to your handcuff and watch while you go to the bathroom," said Nakano.

The 30-year-old insurance saleswoman refused to confess despite what she called psychological and physical intimidation by police and investigators.

Nakano was released on insufficient evidence after being held for the maximum pre-indictment period allowed by law in Japan.

Many industrialised countries permit suspects to be held for four days or less before they are charged.

Haruo Katayama, an official at the National Police Agency's Detention Control Division, said Nakano had been arrested and released but would give no details of her treatment.

"It is our policy not to discuss specific cases," he said.

The average pre-indictment custody period in Japan is 15.6 days, according to the National Police Agency. Suspects are often sent back to police custody even after they have been charged. Judges have issued extensions of more than 100 days.

Nakano's case provides an insight into law enforcement, Japanese-style. More than two million people are detained each year in Japan's police cells.

"Police in Japan use threatening tactics to extract confessions and the whole procedure

remains hidden from public scrutiny and unquestioned by the government," said Yuichi Kaido, an attorney with the Japan Federation of Bar Associations.

The pillar of the system is Japan's prison law, passed 82 years ago and left unchanged to this day. The law, originally passed to remedy prison overcrowding, sanctions the temporary use of police cells to detain criminal suspects.

Critics say prolonged custody in the hands of police invites abuse of suspects, particularly since they are entitled to a public attorney only after being indicted. This keeps a cloud of secrecy over the interrogation process.

Human rights organisations say the Japanese police custody system is a flagrant violation of United Nations human rights principles.

Amnesty International's secretary general Ian Martin spoke to lawyers in Japan recently and appealed for reforms in Japan's police custody system. "Every detainee should have immediate and unrestricted access to a lawyer. It is unfortunate that Japan does not grant this much," he said.

Japanese law restricts visits with lawyers to infrequent 15-minute sessions that must be cleared by a judge.

Martin also called for the separation of detention and interrogation authorities to ensure more neutral treatment.

He met Justice Ministry officials to request an official response to appeals for reforms made by Amnesty last year. Both parties declined comment on the talks pending a formal response from the ministry.

The Justice Ministry says several prisons need to be replaced but money is tight.

Young women in the crowd squealed delightedly as the motorcade passed on its way from the Imperial Palace to the Akasaka Palace, where they will live as small commoners, not the emperor and empress.

Akihito honoured the 24-year-old prince with a new title. He will now be known as Prince Aki-no, after a district in Japan's ancient capital of Nara, in the west.

The former Miss Kawashima, who will be called Princess Kiko, left her family's four-room apartment in a royal limousine just after dawn today. She then began hours of preparation and a purification ritual required before entering the Imperial Palace shrine to the sun goddess Amaterasu, from whom the imperial family descended according to legend (see picture).

Wearing a heavy kimono of light green, orange, maroon and burgundy and having her hair coiffed in a style dating back to court fashion of a thousand years ago, she followed a few steps behind as Aya entered the wooden shrine's outer sanctuary.

A lady-in-waiting carried the train of her kimono, which has nearly a dozen layers and weighs a reported 50 pounds (20 kilos).

Flanked by several imperial rituals, the new princess knelt before the altar and listened as Aya, speaking in the Japanese used by priests of the Shinto religion, announced the wedding to the sun goddess and vowed his wishes for happiness.

Aya was clad in a black robe with the design of cranes flying into clouds and wore a cap with an arched tailpiece, a symbol of his status as an imperial prince. Aya is second in line to the Chrysanthemum throne after his brother, Crown Prince Naruhito, who is 30 and has yet to marry.

Naruhito led the 154 guests, including Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu and other government leaders, who watched from outside the shrine.

Aya's parents, in keeping with tradition, were absent from the ceremony. They waited in another part of the palace for the newly weds to come and formally announce their marriage.

"I feel tense as I think about becoming a member of the imperial family, and recognising the responsibilities," Princess Kiko wrote in a letter carried today by the Asahi Shimbun, a major daily newspaper. "I want to lead a happy life with Prince Aya under the refreshing sky."

The wedding cost nearly \$1 million.

The threat of violence by leftist radicals forced police to call out 9,000 officers to protect the day-long ceremonies, which were televised nation-wide.

The new princess likes to jog and play tennis, and speaks English, German and sign language.

INTERNATIONAL

Unification by year end

Accord on Soviet troops

WEST BERLIN, June 29. (Agencies): East Germany's prime minister predicted in a published interview today that full unification will be achieved by the end of the year, giving the same timetable as West German officials.

Lothar de Maiziere, the country's first democratically elected leader, also added that a "compromise" must be found to eliminate Soviet objections to Nato membership for a unified Germany.

In Bonn, the West German government announced agreement with the Kremlin on financing the costs of the 380,000 Soviet troops stationed in East Germany.

The Finance Ministry said the East German government will hand over 1.25 billion West German marks (\$780 million) for the last six months of this year, and receive in return 255 million "transfer roubles."

Some of the West German marks will come from a fund set up by the Bonn government to finance the unification process.

A Finance Ministry spokesman said the transfer roubles allow for the purchase of Soviet goods, especially oil and natural gas.

The spokesman in Bonn, who requested anonymity, said the value of Soviet goods reach nearly the amount of hard cash paid by the East Germans.

By comparison, the Soviets received 1.4 billion East German marks for the first half of this year. At the official exchange rate into hard currency, was far less than the new sum.

However, officials caution that precise comparisons are difficult due to the complicated exchange procedures in the

Soviet bloc.

On Sunday, East Germany and West Germany embark on the mammoth task of joining their two economies — one a troubled weakling and the other a leading world powerhouse.

As the countdown got under way, leaders from both sides urged East Germans to be cautious in spending the thousands of West German marks most of them will get this weekend.

Financial experts are worried that a sudden, unfettered buying spree would derail efforts to join the two economies smoothly.

West German Finance Minister Theo Waigel urged East Germans to save or invest their money, carefully weighing all the available options.

West German Chancellor Helmut Kohl will visit Moscow next month to try to persuade Soviet President Mikhail Gorbachev to remove a major obstacle to German unification — his objection to its membership of Nato.

Government spokesman Dieter Vogel announced today that Kohl will visit Moscow on July 15 and 16 with Foreign Minister Hans-Dietrich Genscher and Finance Minister Theo Waigel.

Waigel's inclusion indicated that Bonn may offer Gorbachev generous aid for the beleaguered Soviet economy in return for agreement to let the new Germany join the Western military alliance.

"The chancellor will not be going empty-handed," Vogel told a news conference.

The news magazine Der Spiegel said the conservative Kohl also had a personal political motive for making the Moscow trip.

Honecker under murder probe

Border deaths

EAST BERLIN, June 29. (Reuters): A murder investigation has begun against former communist leader Erich Honecker for his government's policy of killing East Germans trying to flee West across the country's once heavily-fortified borders.

The state press agency ADN said the inquiry had been opened "in connection with the shoot-to-kill policy and the use of automatic firing devices and mines on the frontier."

Many East Germans died trying to cross the border during the four decades of communist rule which came to an end last year.

ADN, quoting a statement by prosecutor-general Guenter Seidel, said authorities were also investigating whether border troops who had fired at people attempting to cross the border could be legally responsible.

Seidel's statement said Honecker was being investigated in connection with his former capacity as chairman of the National Defence Council, in charge of East Germany's armed forces. No more details were given.

Honecker, 77, deposed in a peaceful democratic revolution last November, is also under investigation for suspected corruption and abuse of power during his 18 years of absolutist rule.

Honecker now lives as a virtual recluse to escape public wrath and is recovering from cancer surgery at a Soviet military hospital in East Germany.

Scores of East Germans who tried desperate dashes over the border to West Germany during Honecker's rule were killed by machine-gun fire from frontier troops, sharpshooters, booby traps mounted on fences, or concealed mines.

East Germany dismantled the sharpshooters in 1983-84 after West Germany provided it with a one-million-mark line of credit, and the mines were removed a year later.

But the shoot-to-kill order to border troops remained in force, to be used against anyone who tried to cross the concrete walls, watchtowers and ditches on the frontier.

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France adopts anti-racism bill; bigotry assessed

PARIS, June 29. (AP): The National Assembly approved an anti-racism law today and a newspaper said an upcoming report by the European Parliament ranks France ahead of Britain and Italy as home to Western Europe's worst racial violence.

Under the bill, anyone convicted of practising or promoting racial discrimination could be barred from holding any elected office or government jobs for five years.

The bill requires news media which report racist statements to give aggrieved groups the right of response. It also classifies as a crime the propagation of "revisionist" history questioning the existence or extent of Nazi genocide in World War II.

The bill passed on a 308-265 vote, supported unanimously by the governing Socialist Party and

the Communist Party and opposed unanimously by centrist and conservative lawmakers.

The bill now goes to the Senate, which refused to consider an earlier version. The assembly has the power to enact the bill into law even if the Senate rejects it a second time.

Le Figaro, a leading conservative newspaper, denounced the bill as an infringement on freedom of the press and freedom of opinion.

Faced with this proposition, the infinite silence of practically all jurists, and practically all historians, is frightening," Le Figaro said.

Liberation, a left-of-center daily, said that France ranks as the No. 1 offender in a survey of Western European racism to be published next month by a European Parliament Inquiry Commission.

Trailing France, in order, were Britain, Italy, Belgium and West Germany, Liberation said.

Among European Community members, racism was least prevalent in Ireland, but that was likely due to the minimal presence of immigrants from outside Europe, the newspaper said.

Germans and Belgians were the most likely to describe themselves as racist, the report's author, Glyn Ford, was quoted as saying. "But the violence and racial hatred in these two countries is nothing compared to the level in France, Britain and Italy."

Quoting Ford, a British member of the European Parliament's socialist group, Liberation said France had recorded 20 racist murders since 1986.

"Too often, the penalties imposed or steps taken against these killers were so light that immigrants

felt there was no justice for them," Ford was quoted as saying.

According to Liberation, the upcoming report expresses concern about far-right sympathizers in the French police who may have colluded with perpetrators of racist attacks.

In France, the debate about racism has been closely linked with debate over immigration.

Jean-Marie Le Pen, leader of the far-right National Front, has advocated deportation of North African immigrants and the mainstream centre-right parties have accused the Socialists of failing to control immigration.

The Socialists have blamed Le Pen's party for creating a climate of racial animosity.



Prunskiene

Vilnius move to break deadlock

VILNIUS, Soviet Union, June 29. (Reuters): Rebel Lithuania today voted to suspend its March independence declaration for 100 days from the start of any future negotiations with Moscow.

The vote followed a dramatic shift by President Vytautas Landsbergis, who proposed the limited suspension to break the 15-week deadlock with Moscow over independence.

The parliament voted by 69 to 35 to accept Landsbergis's proposal.

The move appeared to be a major victory for Soviet leader Mikhail Gorbachev on the eve of a crucial Communist Party Congress. He had repeatedly called for a suspension of the independence declaration before talks could be held.

The parliament's resolution said: "The independent Lithuanian state, seeking bilateral negotiations between the republic of Lithuania and the USSR, declares from the start of negotiations a unilateral 100-day moratorium on the act of March 11, 1990, suspending all legal action arising from this act."

After the vote, the chamber fell silent. There was no sign of emotion after a nine-hour debate, which was broken by several adjournments while delegates weighed the implications of a moratorium for the country.

Outside the parliament a small but vocal group of Lithuanians waved national flags trimmed with black ribbons to protest against the moratorium.

The group sang Lithuanian patriotic songs and carried banners declaring "no to Kremlin blackmail" and "Prunskiene — a traitor to Lithuania" — a reference to Lithuanian Prime Minister Kazimieras Prunskiene.

Soviet authorities had no immediate comment on whether the vote would be sufficient to end the embargo and open talks.

It also was not clear when any negotiations could begin, because Gorbachev was expected to be tied up with a key national congress of the Communist Party starting Monday.

Soviet congress on Monday

Plenum approves Gorbachev report as Tass warns of 'disaster'

MOSCOW, June 29. (Agencies): Ousting President Mikhail Gorbachev as head of the Communist Party or derailing his reforms could spell "disaster," the official Tass news agency warned today.

The sharply worded commentary appeared as the policy-making Central Committee gave its tentative approval to a report Gorbachev was scheduled to deliver Monday at the 28th congress of the Soviet Communist Party.

But the 249-member committee ordered the Politburo to "rework it, taking into account the discussion" that took place during a five-hour closed door meeting in the Kremlin, Tass reported.

The party leadership decided today to go ahead with a scheduled congress starting on

Monday, a senior party source said.

Party radicals had sought a postponement of the 28th congress, fearing it would be taken over by conservative hardliners.

But party official Rudolf Yanovsky told Reuters as he left a plenary session of the Central Committee that the congress would start on Monday as planned and would last about 10 days.

Yanovsky, a member of the party's Central Auditing Commission, said state President and party chief Mikhail Gorbachev addressed the gathering but he gave no details of what was said.

The three and half hour session also unanimously approved new rules covering organizational changes to the structure of the party's leadership, Yanovsky said.

At the congress, Gorbachev is expected to come under renewed pressure from hardliners who dominated last week's meeting of Russian communists. They said he had bitten off too much by holding that job and the Soviet presidency, and was not defending the interests of the party.

They demanded Gorbachev resign or be voted down at the national congress.

Gorbachev and his allies have warned that any splits in the party's pro-reform faction would weaken it against conservatives.

As the national congress approached, they appeared to be trying to take the offensive.

Radical reformers, who are thought to number about 100 of the 4,700 congress delegates, say they are likely to walk out of the national session and form their own organisation because they are dissatisfied with the pace of reforms within the party.

Tass commentator Andrei Orlov hinted that Gorbachev planned to accelerate his reforms, and was sharply critical of hardliners and professional party workers, whom he accused of sabotaging Gorbachev's efforts to transfer power to newly elected legislative bodies.

"There is an obvious discrepancy between the correct decisions and open resistance to reforms on the part of some party functionaries, who are increasingly aware of the real challenge to their once undisputed power," Orlov wrote.

Boris Yeltsin ordered a freeze on new atomic energy projects beginning next year in the huge Russian republic.

Nato chief denies arms policy: Nato Secretary-General Manfred Woerner denied yesterday reports that the alliance had agreed to retain its policy of "first use" of nuclear weapons as part of a wide-ranging review of strategy in the post-cold war era.

The Washington Post said the United States, which supplies most of Nato's nuclear weapons, had already agreed with its allies to retain the policy, ahead of next week's Nato summit in London.

"We have started a comprehensive review," Woerner told reporters after meeting Hungarian Foreign Minister Geza Jaszszenszky at Nato headquarters in Brussels.

"You will have the first indications (about the review) at the summit. That answers your question."

Nato leaders gather in London on July 5 and 6 to review the future of 16-nation alliance. (Reuters)

Bush demurs on Moscow aid: President George Bush said yesterday the United States disagreed with its allies over giving immediate aid to Moscow and could not offer economic assistance to the Soviet Union before it introduced market reforms.

He also indicated that the United States would like to see Soviet military spending and aid to Cuba reduced.

"We have some differences in the alliance on this question," Bush said at a news conference, but he stressed he was not trying to tell other members of the Western alliance what to do with their money. (Reuters)

NEWS IN BRIEF



Muscovites read unofficial newspapers from various political groups displayed on a wall in central Moscow on Friday as communist leaders gathered for a party plenum due to decide whether to go ahead with next week's crucial party congress. (Reuters wirephoto)

Bush to seek Nato declaration: President George Bush probably will ask Nato allies to declare formally next week that they do not pose a threat to nations of the Warsaw Pact, Secretary of State James A. Baker said on Thursday.

The declaration would be intended to calm Moscow's anxieties about a united Germany being a military and political member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation.

At his briefing, Baker said Nato should stick

with its decades-old policy of threatening to fire nuclear weapons first in response to a major Soviet attack with conventional weapons.

Though this so-called "flexible response" strategy may be discussed, "I don't think we ought to make Europe safe for conventional war."

The idea of a non-aggression statement was raised by Bush in an interview with foreign journalists on Wednesday. (AP)

Prague tested Semtex on airliner: UK documentary

LONDON, June 29. (AP): Czechoslovakia's secret police tested Semtex on a passenger aircraft in 1984 and found that 200 grammes (seven ounces) of the explosive could wreck a plane in flight, according to a British television documentary.

Semtex has been implicated in the destruction of Pan Am Flight 103 in December 1988, with the loss of 270 lives.

The hour-long "This Week" documentary for Thames Television, showed colour film of spectacular explosions taken by the former marketing director at the factory, apparently for his own use.

Maj. Zbynek Hybl, identified as a member of the

paramilitary "special operations group" allied with the secret police, said the tests in October and November of 1984 were an anti-terrorist exercise.

Hybl said only four other people were involved in the tests, which were conducted on a Soviet-built Ilyushin 18.

Semtex is made only in Czechoslovakia, and President Vlastav Havel has confirmed that the previous communist government had sold nearly 1,000 tons to the Libyan government of Col Moammar Khaddafi.

The documentary says Hybl's "special operations group" was based in Brezany Castle, near

Prague, where the Interior Ministry also had a training programme for Third World security agents.

Those tests produced jagged holes about the size of a dinner plate in the plane's skin.

Scottish police have said the Pan Am 747 destroyed over Lockerbie, which was flying at about 30,000 feet (9,100 metres), was brought down by a small amount of explosive hidden in a radio-cassette player.

The documentary shows 8mm colour film taken by Bohumil Solc, who said he retired last year as the factory's marketing director.

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World News Roundup

America

Inside job in armoured robbery: Suspicious authorities were investigating whether robbers who stole \$10.8 million from an armoured truck may have had inside help.

FBI agents and Monroe County sheriff's officials also said Wednesday they had found a van, believed to have been used in robbery, the biggest theft from an armoured car in US history.

At least two gunmen held up the truck when the driver and guard stopped to buy coffee and sandwiches shortly after leaving armoured motor service of America's offices in the Rochester suburb of Chili. The truck was on its way to the Federal Reserve Bank branch in Buffalo with surplus cash from area banks. (AP)

Ministry preferences upheld: The Supreme Court on Wednesday in Washington upheld federal policies that favour women and minorities in awarding broadcast licenses, a major victory for affirmative action.

By a 5-4 vote, the justices said the federal communications commission policies do not discriminate unlawfully against white men.

In a case from Florida, the court allowed the commission to give special, favourable consideration to women and minorities in awarding a television station license. (AP)

US youth: vote less, care less: Interest in news and public affairs among young Americans aged 18 to 29 years old is less than any other generation of Americans in the past 50 years, according to a study published in Washington Thursday.

The study, which analysed 12,000 sample interviews from May 1989 to March 1990 and compared them to similar surveys dating back to the 1940s, found that young Americans were about as well-informed as their elders on most issues — until about 1975.

In the past 15 years, however, the study which was produced by *Time* magazine, found a generation that votes less, cares less and is less critical of its leaders and institutions than young people in the past. (KUNA)

Poindestier trial: Former National Security Adviser John M. Poindestier appeared Wednesday before a federal grand jury investigating the arms-for-hostages scheme dubbed the Iran-Contra affair.

Poindestier, who was sentenced June 11 to six months in prison for lying to Congress about the affair and obstructing inquiries of congressional committees, testified behind closed doors at the United States courthouse.

In Iran-Contra, four men — including Poindestier and his aide, Oliver L. North — were charged with conspiring to defraud the United States by illegally diverting money from secret US arms sales to Iran to the Nicaraguan Contra rebels when such assistance was banned by law. (AP)

Drive to repeal hiring illegal: Senators of both parties launched a drive in Washington to repeal federal sanctions against employers who hire illegal aliens, saying the penalties cause discrimination in hiring.

"In my view employer sanctions simply are not worth the price in increased employment discrimination and increased burdens on business," Sen. Orrin Hatch, a Republican said at a news conference.

He was joined in unveiling legislation that would repeal the sanctions by Sens. Edward M. Kennedy, Alan Cranston, Dennis DeConcini and Jeff Bingaman all Democrats. (AP)

Counsellor excommunicated: The director of an abortion clinic Thursday became the second American excommunicated by the Roman Catholic Church over the abortion issue, the woman said.

Rachel Vargas said she received a letter dated June 1 from Bishop Rene Gracida saying she could no longer receive Holy Communion or a Catholic burial, Vargas said that she did not plan to protest the decision.

Vargas said she would continue her work as the administrator of reproductive services, a clinic that performs abortions, provides family planning and adoption services. (UPI)

Roemer to veto abortion bill: The legislature gave final approval to the strictest state abortion bill in the nation and passed it along to Gov. Buddy Roemer, who has promised a veto.

The bill calls for prison terms of up to 10 years hard labour for doctors who perform abortions, and offers no exceptions for women who wish to abort fetuses that are the product of rape or incest.

The bill's sponsors hope to use it to challenge the US Supreme Court's 1973 Roe vs. Wade decision legalising abortion rights. Roemer has 10 days to act, and the legislative session ends in 15 days. (AP)

DEA seizes prize horse: A stallion worth between \$2 million and \$10 million, a prize possession of the powerful Ochoa family of Colombia's Medellin cocaine cartel, was seized Thursday by the Drug Enforcement Administration in Miami.

The horse, an 11-year-old solid chestnut Paso Fino stallion named Capuchino, will be turned over to the US Marshall's Service for forfeiture to the government, possibly for auction. Its principal owner is Jorge Ochoa, a kingpin in the notorious Medellin cartel, said John Fernandez, a DEA spokesman.

"At one point, it was in the United States and he (Ochoa) got word we were looking for it and sent it to Colombia," Fernandez said. "For some unexplained reason, it came back to the United States and we found out about it and got a hold of it, here in Miami. (UPI)



Liberian rebels

A teenage rebel fighter belonging to the Liberian National Patriotic Front holds a human leg bone as he watches a truck being loaded with lighters in a picture taken in a rebel base camp. (Reuters wirephoto)



Arrested

South African riot police arrest Anglican Rev. Michael Weider who led a protest sit-in outside the town council offices of Ashton, 200 km from Cape Town. (Reuters wirephoto)

Europe

\$1b to improve air safety: Britain's Civil Aviation Authority said Wednesday it will spend more than \$1 billion to improve air safety, including equipment to detect possible mid-air collisions 30 minutes before they would happen.

Present systems can give only a five-minute warning, said the state-run Civil Aviation Authority in announcing spending of more than 750 million pounds (\$1.3 billion) on air traffic control technology over the next seven years. (AP)

Camera was switched off: A security video camera outside a London club bombed by IRA guerrillas was switched off on the night of the attack, police sources said on Wednesday.

The Irish Republican Army, which is fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland, claimed responsibility for the 15-pound (seven-kg) bomb which injured four people on Monday night at the exclusive Carlton Club, used by leaders of the ruling Conservative Party. (Reuters)

Le Pen charged with defamation: Jean-Marie Le Pen, president of the far-right National Front, was charged with racial defamation Thursday for a remark about "international Jewry" in a newspaper interview.

No date was set for further proceedings in the case. (AP)

UK in need of more diplomats: Britain is in need of more diplomats to keep in touch with the major changes now taking place throughout the world, a parliamentary committee said in London Thursday.

The foreign affairs committee hinted strongly that if the right calibre of diplomats was to be recruited, the UK government must be prepared to pay more. (KUNA)

Thatcher 'least active': British Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is "the least active" prime minister in the House of Commons for the last 120 years, according to a motion tabled by a group of opposition Labour MPs in London Thursday.

They have accused Thatcher's public relations advisers of achieving for her "a high degree of insulation from critical scrutiny." (KUNA)

Pope Paul tried to contact: Pope Paul VI tried to contact Red Brigades terrorists in 1978 to obtain the release of kidnapped former premier Aldo Moro, a newspaper reported Wednesday.

The Turin-based daily *La Stampa* said the Pope's secretary, the Rev. Pasquale Macchi, disclosed the operation in pre-trial testimony. (AP)

Life terms for Arab killers: Two extreme rightists were sentenced to life imprisonment on Wednesday for killing an Algerian immigrant and wounding four in racist attacks in Normandy three years ago.

Christophe Arcini, 26, and Michel Lajoye, 21, were convicted of shooting dead grocer Abdelkader Moussout, 57, in his shop and wounding four other Arabs in gun or bomb attacks on bars frequented by Algerian migrant workers. (Reuters)

Swiss to curb HIV: Beginning this autumn a bus providing free syringes and medical-social advice for intravenous drug users will circulate among sensitive areas of the city, a Swiss daily reported Thursday.

The Tribune de Geneve said that this measure is intended to curb the spread of HIV — the virus which causes AIDS. It is estimated that about 50 per cent of all drug addicts living in Switzerland have already been infected with HIV. (KUNA)

Dutch expanding: Health authorities in Rotterdam are expanding a system of public syringe dispensers to fight AIDS among intravenous drug addicts, a spokesman said Wednesday.

The experimental programme which began in March 1989 with a single dispenser at the city-funded Bouman House Clinic has grown to three such dispensers around the downtown area, according to Rien Klaassen, Bouman drug programme co-ordinator. (AP)

Ariane flights to resume: An Ariane rocket is scheduled to blast off July 24 with a double payload of French and West German satellites, ending a five-month suspension of launches following an explosion during liftoff in February. (AP)

Aids toll rises by 3,000: The number of cases of the acquired immune deficiency syndrome (AIDS) has increased by 3,000 over the previous month, the World Health Organisation (WHO) reported Friday.

As of 1 July 1990 a cumulative total of 266,098 cases of (AIDS) has been reported to WHO from 156 countries. This increase is due to receipt of reports from the European and American regions. (KUNA)

Mercuri nominated for mayor: The Greek Socialist Party has nominated Melina Mercuri, the "veteran" actress, and politician, to run for mayor of Athens.

Former premier Andreas Papandreu said Wednesday that his party's executive bureau had agreed unanimously to Mercuri's candidacy, which was proposed by grassroots organisations Sunday. (AP)

Anglican representative: The Anglican Communion said Wednesday it had chosen the Most Rev. Sir Paul Reeves, Governor-General of New Zealand, to be its first full-time representative to the United Nations.

He will become the voice at the United Nations of the world's 70 million Anglicans, including 2.5 million US Episcopalians. (AP)

Soft line for Elizabeth: Quebec nationalists have briefly curbed their long-standing antagonism to the British monarchy, saying that the visiting Queen of England should be treated with "due respect." (Reuters)

The British-educated leader of the pro-independence Parti Quebecois, Jacques Parizeau, adopted a soft line for Queen Elizabeth II and urged Quebecers on Wednesday to treat her with "due respect." (Reuters)

Hubble Focus flaw

WASHINGTON, June 29, (AP): An error in the grinding and polishing of the main mirrors aboard the Hubble space telescope has been pinpointed as the cause of a focus flaw that crippled the \$1.5 billion orbiting observatory.

An official of Hughes Danbury Optical Co., which manufactured the mirrors, said last night that experiments with signals from the Hubble have confirmed that a mistake was made in the tedious three-year process of making the primary and secondary Hubble mirrors.

"With fairly high certainty, we have concluded that... the shape of one of the mirror is not correct," said Terence Facey, a Hughes Danbury engineer who helped NASA isolate the source of the Hubble focusing problem.

The National Aeronautics and Space Administration has said the telescope cost \$1.5 billion, plus \$600 million for operations and maintenance.



Army training

An army instructor teaches a woman student from People's University in Beijing how to live a life June 21 during military training at an army base outside Beijing. Students are required to take military training to improve discipline after last year's democracy turmoil. (Reuters file photo)

Asia

Boycott Mongolia polls: Mongolia's main opposition group, the Mongolian Democratic Party, will boycott national elections scheduled for next month, party officials said on Friday.

The party and its sister organisation the Mongolian Democratic Alliance would boycott the July 29 polls because it has been unfairly organised, the party officials told Reuters. (Reuters)

Floods submerge Lai Chau: Flooded by torrential rains "submerged the whole town" of Lai Chau in northern Vietnam, leaving many people missing, the official Vietnam news agency said.

The flood, "the greatest so far," was fed by rains that lasted from Tuesday night to Wednesday afternoon, the agency said in a report dated Wednesday. (AP)

Warfare forced labour: Nearly 40,000 Chinese were shipped to Japan as forced labour in the World War Two years and many died from illness and torture, the Asahi Shimbun newspaper said on Thursday.

It said researchers were established for the first time that 38,935 such workers were held in 135 camps in Japan.

Many thousands of Koreans were also brought to Japan to work in mines and factories and relieve labour shortages as Japanese were sent to the warfront. (Reuters)

Canton executes 39: Authorities have executed 39 people for crimes ranging from murder to prostitution in the south Chinese city of Canton, and courts have sentenced 136 others, local news reports said.

Wednesday's Yangcheng evening news, seen in Beijing Thursday, said the 39 were executed immediately after sentencing by Canton municipal and 11 county courts. (AP)

Round-trip tickets: Air travel in China will be revolutionised next week with the introduction of the return ticket.

China's national airline, notorious for interline and return tickets beginning July 1, the official Xinhua news agency said Thursday.

Air travellers in China now have to get to their destination before buying tickets for their return. Often this has meant having to extend one's stay because tickets were unavailable on the desired day of departure. (AP)

Fireworks plant blast kills 5: An explosion rocked a fireworks factory in western Japan Friday, killing five workers and injuring five others, one seriously, police said.

Police said the explosion occurred around 11 am at the factory of Toyohashi Fireworks Co. in Aichi prefecture (state), about 150 miles (250 km) south of Tokyo.

Five people — one man and four women — were killed in the blast and a subsequent fire, police said. (UPI)

Gaining recognition: Malaysia's tough stand against the drug (dada) menace is slowly gaining wide recognition, according to a report today.

The report said although some foreign newspapers and television stations at one time carried on an aggressive campaign against what they called Malaysia's "barbaric and brutal anti-narcotics" laws, today they seem to have realised that only very tough laws may succeed in helping to check the dada menace. (KUNA)

\$177 billion Japan gives workers bonus

TOKYO, June 29, (KUNA): Today is considered the most blissful day in the eastern Japanese calendar, as the government distributes a sum of \$177 billion bonus to its 4.5 million employees of the central and provincial governments.

A statement by the administration and co-ordination agency noted that the average bonus of the central government employee is about \$320 while a provincial employee deserves an amount of \$310.

Chief Justice Ryosachi Kusaba receives the highest amount of \$25,533 followed by a sum of \$25,333 which goes into Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu's account, according to the report.

It further indicated that speaker of the "Diet", the Japanese Parliament, and the chairman of the senate, each will receive \$23,600 while each deputy gets \$14,000.

In private sector, \$1.1 trillion will be distributed with an average of \$2920 to each worker, which is 6.9 per cent more than last year, the agency statistics pointed out.



Day of riots

Rose Swanepoel, a 23-year-old resident of Ashton, a South African city, after being shot with birdshot by South African riot police. Several people were hurt in clashes with police during the third day of riots. (Reuters wirephoto)

China passes flag law: China's legislature on Thursday passed the nation's first flag law, providing for up to three years in prison for anyone damaging the national flag.

The law, adopted by the standing committee of the National People's Congress, also forbids the use of the flag in advertisements or as a trademark, the official Xinhua news agency said. (AP)

Nigerian drug suspect held: Thai anti-narcotics officials arrested a key narcotics supplier who set up a "Nigerian drug connection" using African couriers to smuggle South-east Asian heroin to Europe, the anti-narcotics authority said Thursday.

"Thai authorities have arrested a large number of Nigerians who smuggled heroin abroad during the past year," a press statement said. (UPI)

Chinese babies for Singapore: Childless Singaporean couples are now seeking babies from China after finding it hard to get Malaysian babies — the traditional source — according to a report Thursday.

The report quoted the director of the island republic's population planning unit, Dr Paul Cheung as saying so far 30 couples had adopted or were in the process of adopting Chinese babies. (KUNA)

Anthrax kills 1,400 cattle: Anthrax disease killed more than 1,400 cattle in central Java and to prevent further spread the government decided to temporarily close livestock sales in the area, an official announced Friday.

The anthrax outbreak in six villages in central Java beginning early this year killed cattle belonging to people's nucleus dairy companies in Boyolali and Semarang districts, director general of cattle breeding Suhadji told reporters. (UPI)

Japanese freighter sinks: A Japanese freighter sank after colliding with an oil tanker of Panamanian registry in a narrow strait in western Japan Thursday, injuring four of 14 crewmen aboard the sunken vessel, maritime official said.

The officials of the maritime safety agency said there were no injuries among 18 south Korean seamen aboard the tanker. (UPI)

Ship sails around Johnston Atoll: The Greenpeace ship "Rainbow Warrior" has staged a protest in the Pacific over US army plans to incinerate 13,000 tons of lethal nerve gas at Johnston Atoll.

The environmental group said Wednesday that the ship sailed around the atoll, 700 nautical miles southwest of Hawaii, early Tuesday morning carrying banners that read: "Stop poisonous gas burn" and "what we burn today, we eat tomorrow." (AP)

Bones not prehistoric: Bones found last month in an undersea cave, are just whale remains and not prehistoric creatures, as originally thought.

The "Fiji Times" newspaper on Thursday quoted diver Kevin Deacon, who photographed and filmed the site, as saying experts at the Australian National Museum in Canberra and the Museum of Natural History in Los Angeles positively identified the bones as coming from pilot whales. (AP)

Negotiate with kidnappers: US gold mine engineer \$800 (Helmold), who was abducted April 28 in Ecuador's Amazon jungle by Colombian rebels, are negotiating directly with kidnappers, diplomatic sources said Wednesday.

A US embassy official in Ecuador, who asked not to be named, told United Press International Helmold's mother, Marge, said, "Scott is alive and we are negotiating."

The official refused to say when direct negotiations began or comment on the progress. (UPI)

Bolivia's cardinal dies: Cardinal Jose Clement Maurer, who devoted 63 years to serving the poor and mediating political conflicts in Bolivia, died Wednesday at the age of 90.

The German-born prelate adopted Bolivia as his home and was ordained a bishop of the Roman Catholic church in 1950 and cardinal in 1967.

The Trevis religious order channeled support to him for housing and aid projects in the city of Sucre, a colonial city 560 kilometers (350 miles) east of La Paz, where he served and died. (AP)

Honduras to defend Fonseca: The Honduran armed forces on Wednesday vowed to defend territorial waters in the Gulf of Fonseca following what they called a confrontation involving Honduran and Salvadoran armed forces there.

"The military is committing itself to defending its waters from outside interference," armed forces spokesman Juan Sierra told Reuters. "We are prepared to protect our waters." (Reuters)

Peruvian rebels kill 34: Guerrillas killed 34 civilian militia and municipal officials and blew up three bridges in a sweep of three Andean villages, authorities said Thursday.

Some 200 rebels machine-gunned their victims on Wednesday following a "revolutionary trial" in the town square of Choras, said Huancu department vice Giv Reynaldo Roldan. (AP)

Fujimori seeks aid: President-elect Alberto Fujimori leaves behind a bankrupt country paralyzed by shortages and strikes Thursday when he flies to New York and Tokyo seeking aid.

Bread, gasoline, bottled cooking gas and kerosene have largely disappeared in recent days. Peruvians already face daily blackouts, severe water rationing and a depression that has left four of five people without steady work. (AP)

Salvadoran convoy attacked: Leftist Salvadoran guerrillas were blamed in an attack Wednesday on the president of the national legislature.

No one was injured in the attack on a convoy carrying Ricardo Alvarez, president of the National Assembly. There was no immediate rebel comment. (AP)

Hernandez warrant: A judge issued an arrest warrant Wednesday for an army officer accused of destroying evidence about last November's slaying of six Jesuit priests, their cook and her teen-age daughter.

The warrant charges Lt Col Carlos Camilo Hernandez of destroying the mission logs of soldiers accused of the killings at Central American University. (AP)

US denies hiding documents: Prosecutors against Manuel Antonio Noriega acknowledged Thursday they have not given secret Panamanian files to the defence, citing the enormous volume of documents, not interference by intelligence agencies.

Michael O'Kane, an attorney for Noriega co-defendant Daniel Miranda, had charged that a "secret inventory" showed about 40 file cabinets seized during the US invasion were missing from a US military warehouse in Panama. (AP)



Van Gogh paintings stolen

Thieves stole three paintings by Vincent van Gogh worth millions of dollars early Thursday after apparently neutralising a sensitive alarm system.

"The Siting Farmer's Wife" (left), "The Dipping Farmer's Wife" (middle) and "Wheels of the Water Mill in Gannep," were taken from the Noordbrabant museum in Den Bosch about



Van Gogh paintings stolen

12.30 am (2330 GMT Wednesday), according to Peter Veenland, a member of the museum's board of directors.

Veenland said the works were worth a total of 5-10 million guilders (\$2.7 to \$5.4 million). Veenland said at a press conference that neither the seismic nor the infrared sensors installed to detect intruders had functioned



Van Gogh paintings stolen

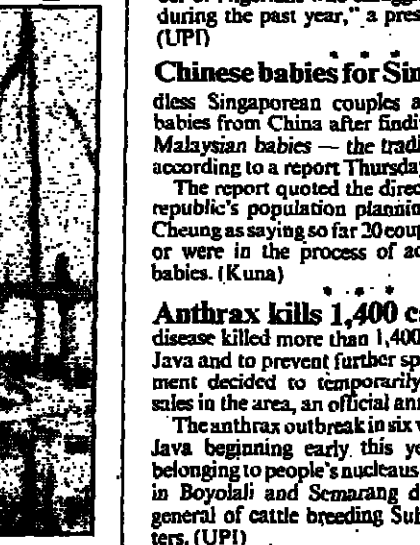
during the theft.

Veenland said the alarms could have failed by themselves or been disabled intentionally. He refused to comment on whether an inside job was suspected.



Van Gogh paintings stolen

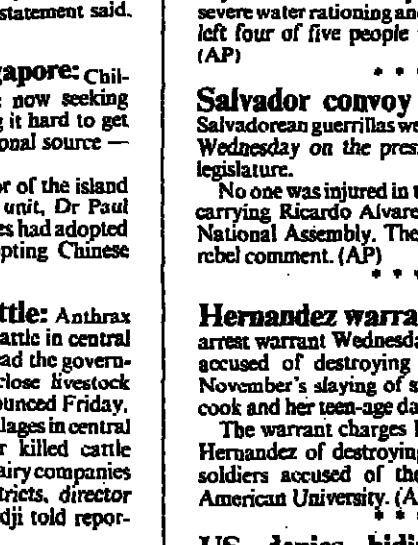
The alarm system was linked to a private security firm, and not to police headquarters in Den Bosch, 85 kilometres (53 miles) south of



Van Gogh paintings stolen

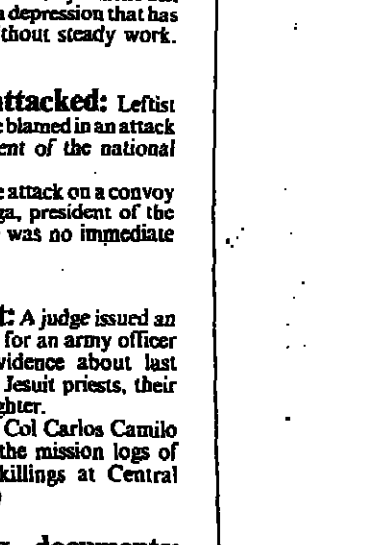
Amsterdam.

Police were called by neighbours who heard the sound of breaking glass.



Van Gogh paintings stolen

The museum spokesman said the thieves, believed by police to number three, climbed over several fences to reach the back of the museum and then smashed a hole in a double-paned, reinforced ground-floor window.



Van Gogh paintings stolen

Amsterdam.

Police were called by neighbours who heard the sound of breaking glass.

INTERNATIONAL

Rebels fighting near Monrovia

MONROVIA, June 29, (Agencies): Rebels advancing on Monrovia in a bid to topple President Samuel Doe fired at troops near the Liberian capital's sole water plant on Friday, witnesses said.

Residents fleeing the town said they heard heavy firing after dawn north of Caldwell, just four km (2.5 miles) from Monrovia port.

At a checkpoint outside the town soldiers stopped all traffic from going further, including a Liberian National Disaster Relief Committee team looking for wounded.

Caldwell is about eight km (five miles) from central Monrovia where Doe has surrounded himself with Israeli-trained bodyguards and his best troops for what many Liberians fear could be a bloody showdown.

Troops were seen heading for the town but government officials said they had no information about fighting.

Charles Taylor, leader of the rebel National Patriotic Front of Liberia, has vowed to capture the capital of 500,000 people and kill Doe unless he resigns.

Caldwell is on the road to Monrovia's only water treatment plant at white plains. Travellers from there have reported hearing shooting for several days but it was not clear whether the rebels had taken the plant.

Monrovia has been without water since Wednesday night. A water authority official said he had been unable to contact the plant and was concerned for his staff's safety.

He was worried about health problems in the city which normally uses up to 19 million gallons a day.

Rebels also attacked the Mount Coffee hydro-electric plant eight km (five miles) from white plains on Thursday morning.

An electricity corporation official said he lost radio contact with the plant on Thursday afternoon. It provides half the capital's electricity. The corporation has only six days of fuel oil for its gas turbine plant if the hydro plant stopped, he said.

Liberia: Soldiers fired at protesters calling for the resignation of Liberian President Samuel Doe on Wednesday and then went on a shooting spree through Monrovia.

Tension has risen in Monrovia since peace talks failed to resume this week and soldiers shot and wounded five demonstrators demanding that Doe should resign.

Many soldiers fired in the air but some aimed their M-16 rifles at demonstrators trying to march on Doe's heavily-fortified mansion, witnesses said. (Reuters)

Doe, who toppled a civilian government in a bloody army coup in 1980, has refused to quit. Many residents have fled and prices of food and petrol have soared.

Zambia: Troops and paramilitary police shut down the country's leading university after a pre-dawn assault today in which they beat many students and ordered thousands to pack their bags.

Witnesses said shots were fired and one student was killed, but the report could not be immediately confirmed.

Ethiopia: The government yesterday conditionally welcomed a rebel-proposed ceasefire and transitional government.

In a long statement issued by the council of state, the government said it was possible to "consider these and other issues" if the rebels stop fighting and halt support for independence of the country's northernmost province. (AP)

Kenya: President Daniel Arap Moi is accustomed to wielding his word as law, but he is having increasing trouble shouting down calls for political pluralism in Kenya.

Some fear he will resort to force. (AP)

Lesotho: A 109-member National Assembly was sworn in yesterday and given instructions to draft a constitution that will help return the southern African nation to civilian rule in 1992.

The assembly members, most of them appointed by the ruling military council, are to draft a constitution by next January. (AP)

Angola: Unita rebel leader Jonas Savimbi said today that Angola faced mass starvation from war and drought and urged the superpowers to help set up "corridors of peace" to bring humanitarian aid to millions. (Reuters)

Anti-apartheid constitution proposed

Mandela lauds US labour as 50,000 cheer him wildly

JOHANNESBURG, June 29, (UPI): Government's hands-on manager of racial reform, Constitutional Development Minister Gerrit Viljoen, launched a campaign this week to float Pretoria's most cogent vision yet of a post-apartheid constitution in a move partly to divert attention from black leader Nelson Mandela, officials said Friday.

But the proposals are unlikely to impress anti-apartheid activists, black spokesmen and liberal analysts said, as the key demand for one-man-one vote in a single parliament remains unmet.

The envisaged parliament would replace the existing racially segregated three-chamber body — which includes whites, Asians and South Africans of mixed race but excludes the black majority —

probably with two chambers, one mixed and representing all citizens regardless of race, Viljoen announced in a speech Thursday.

He proposed "equal, universal suffrage," but gave no details of the planned parliament's numerical breakdown or the structure of a new voter's roll.

Viljoen said government is also seeking a bill of human rights and assurances of an entrenched constitution and an independent judiciary.

But in contrast to Mandela's demands for a single, equal vote for all, ministry officials noted minority rights will be entrenched in any government-approved constitution and said the second chamber proposes to represent the other races separately, to give individual

racist legislative veto power. "This does not deal with real black demands for democracy," renegade Afrikaner political science academic Willem Kleynhans said. An African National Congress spokesman noted, "There's nothing much new here."

"This is the furthest we've gone so far in laying down a concrete vision of something new," one constitutional planning official said. "It's the beginning of a drive to convince people Gerrit Viljoen's got real ideas for the future South Africa."

Mandela has said the ANC acknowledges the diversity of South African society, but in direct opposition to government proposals, including Viljoen's latest, rejects any form of group rights in a new constitution and



United Automobile Workers Vice-President Ernest Lottin (left) and UAW President Dwen Owen Bieber (right) delight in remarks made by Nelson Mandela wearing a UAW jacket addressing auto workers at the Dearborn assembly. (Reuters wirephoto)

wants one vote for all in a unitary state.

Any new constitution will replace the constitution pushed

through in 1983 by De Klerk's predecessor, Pieter W. Botha.

bringing in the three-chamber parliament and replacing a whites-only Westminster system.

Nelson Mandela received a tumultuous welcome in the America's industrial heartland, revitalising the South African anti-apartheid leader's US tour after a rebuff from political leaders in Miami.

"We appreciate your efforts, especially in this time of industrial retrenchment. In the face of your problems and difficulties, we have not forgotten you. We will never forget you," Mandela told a crowd of 49,000 at an athletic stadium.

Mandela, in a day of tribute to the American labour movement which has long backed his fight for racial equality, promised a cheering crowd Thursday night that apartheid is doomed.

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DLF QUTAB ENCLAVE PHASE-I

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DLF. The people who developed as many as 21 of Delhi's prime residential colonies. Colonies like Greater Kailash and Hauz Khas, South Extension and Model Town. Today, DLF is building the largest township south of Delhi — DLF Qutab Enclave. DLF

once again offers the discerning property buyer a great new option-spacious 2 & 3 bedroom apartments in DLF Silver Oaks, the exclusive apartment complex in Phase I of DLF Qutab Enclave.

DLF QUTAB ENCLAVE — WELL ON ITS WAY TO BECOMING THE MODEL TOWNSHIP OF TOMORROW.

The location of property is always a critical factor. If you are looking for something in or around Delhi, DLF Silver Oaks is almost unbeatable. It's in the heart of Phase I of DLF Qutab Enclave — a short 10-minute drive from the Indira Gandhi International Airport and a 15-minute drive from the Qutab Minar.

Today, the township covers over 1700 acres and is almost fully developed. In fact, around 250 families have already shifted into the complex. The exclusive DLF Gymkhana Club — with swimming and tennis, billiards and badminton, a bar and a restaurant — has already opened. The 4-storeyed shopping-cum-commercial complex, the DLF Qutab Plaza is also ready, and is currently being handed over to its owners. The first public school too has opened its doors. The Capital's public transport system, DTC, now plies regular services to the township. Security and maintenance services are functional, as are telephone and telex services. And when you consider that this is only the beginning — and that scores of other facilities are yet to be added — there's no doubt that DLF Qutab Enclave is really going to be a great place to live in.

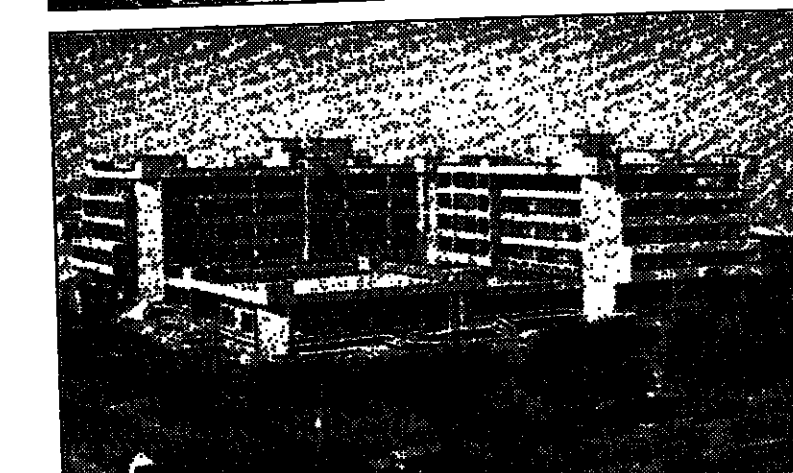
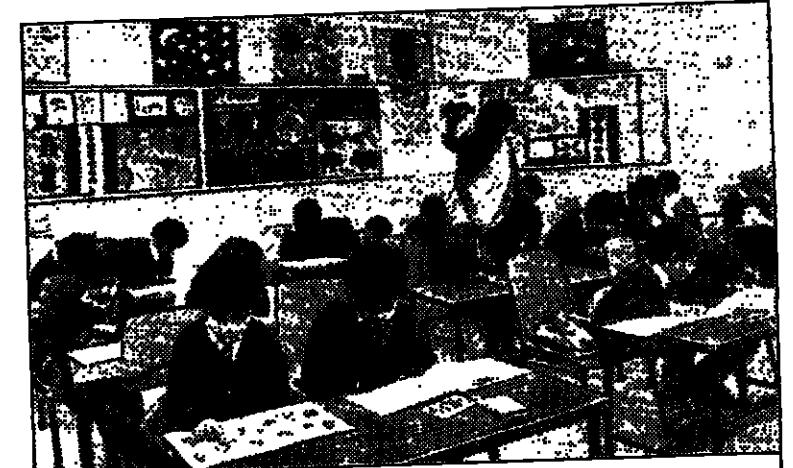
The advantages of buying property in a new township like DLF Qutab Enclave are many. Most important of course, are the prices, which are a fraction of those in the city. Besides the environmental benefit — no congestion and pollution, but a clean and open environment.

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DLF Silver Oaks apartments. In a choice of 2 and 3 bedrooms. Apartments that have been thoughtfully designed. Spacious and open. With finishes that have been carefully planned to give you a home you'd be proud to call your own.

And the apartments are extremely affordable. You can pay over 2 1/2 years in interest-free instalments. And finance is also available from HDFC, LIC and other institutions.

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DLF Qutab Enclave IT'S GETTING BETTER EVERY DAY

KD 167m allocated for land expropriation

Municipal Affairs Committee meets

STATE Minister for Municipal Affairs, Fahad Al Hasawi headed the last session of the Municipal Affairs Committee recently. During the session participants discussed the real estate exchange law, which indicated exchange articles at residential and commercial areas in order to demarcate areas which are considered commercially inactive.

On the other hand, the committee discussed the estimated new expropriations budget which was set by the department at KD 167 million.

Conditions

The state minister for municipal affairs delivered a speech during the session in which he praised efforts exerted by com-

mittee members towards organising and developing environmental, health and construction conditions.

He pointed out committee accomplishments during the current period in issuing a number of decisions and modifying a number of drafts and new systems for residential areas in addition to issuing construction licence for plot owners located in

Surra South and Ardiya. Headed that the committee also re-organised a number of areas like Jahra, Kheitan, Sabahiya South, and Mahboubia in addition to allocating many locations for ministries, authorities and private and government establishments. The committee also approved the development of chalets in southeast Bubiyan Island.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Premier receives

KUWAIT, June 29. (Kuna): His Highness the Crown Prince and Prime Minister Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Salem Al Sabah received at his dewan at Bayan Palace Minister of the Amir Diwan Affairs Sheikh Khaled Al Ahmed Al Jaber, Minister of Interior Sheikh Salem Al Sabah, Minister of Information Sheikh Jaber Mubarak Al Hamad and Minister of State for Cabinet Affairs Dr Abdulrahman Al Awadi.

His Highness also received Minister of Justice and Legal Affairs Dbari Abdullah Al Othman, Minister of State for Housing Affairs Yehia Fahd Al Simait, Director of the Audit Bureau Fares Abdulrahman Al Wajegyan and Governor of Ahmadi Sheikh Ali Sabah Al Salem.

Sheikh Saad also received Director of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Al Diani, Deputy Army Chief of Staff Major General Jaber Al Khaled Al Sabah, Charge d'Affaires at the Egyptian Embassy in Kuwait Dr Salah Al Eshari who delivered a message to His Highness from the Egyptian premier.

Sheikh Saad later received Rashid Abdul Aziz Al Rashid and Jassem Mohammad Al Bhanafi.

Khuran cable

KUWAIT, June 29. (Kuna): State Minister for Foreign Affairs Sheikh Nasser Mohammed Al Ahmad received a cable of congratulations from His Majesty King of Bhutan Jigme Singye Wangchuck.

The cable expressed King Wangchuck's heartfelt pleasure at the appointment of Sheikh Nasser as State Minister for Foreign Affairs in the new Kuwaiti government.

Sheikh Nasser sent a reply cable thanking his majesty the king for the sensitive sentiments which reflect the deepness of links between the people of Bhutan and the people of Kuwait.

On the other hand, Sheikh Nasser received today in his office editor-in-chief of the weekly Lebanese magazine Hassan Sabra who is visiting Kuwait presently.

Nazer returns

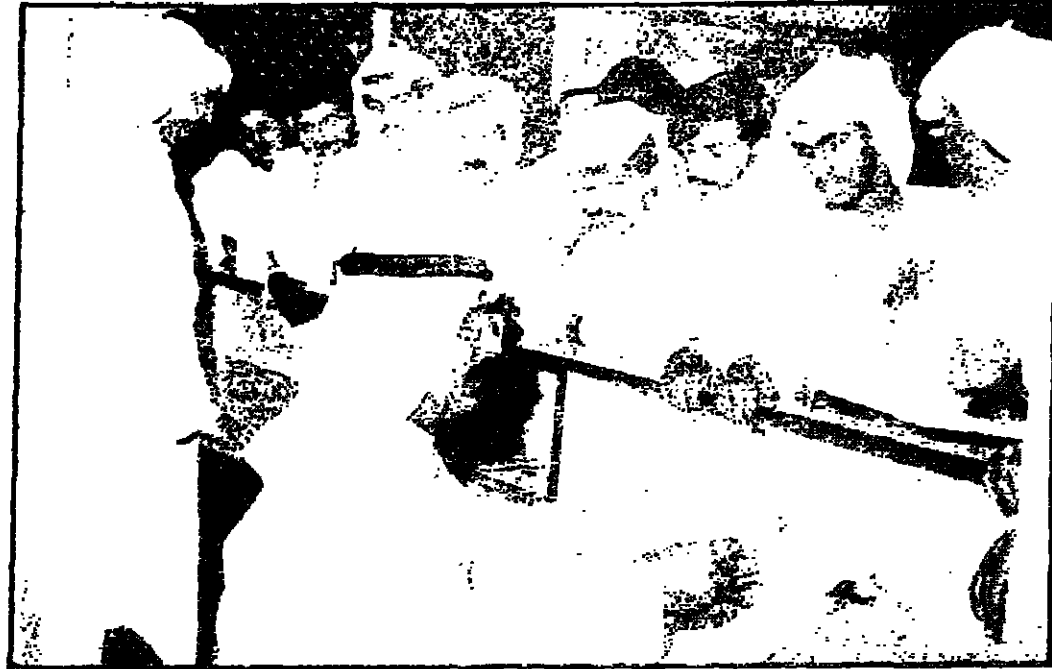
JEDDAH, June 29. (Kuna): Saudi Oil and Mineral Resources Minister and Acting Planning Minister Hesham Nazer returned here from Kuwait last night. During his brief visit to Kuwait, Nazer met with Ministers of Finance and Oil Sheikh Ali Khalifa Al Athbi and Dr Rashid Salem Al Anzeri.

During the meeting the ministers discussed issues of mutual concern in the framework of the negotiations on the international oil market and means of stabilising it.

Iran solidarity

ABU DHABI, June 29. (Kuna): United Arab Emirates decided to cancel all celebrations of Eid Al Adha (Greater Bairam) in solidarity with Iranian people in their recent crisis.

A UAE official spokesman said last night that UAE President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan has decided to cancel all celebrations and the sailboat race which was due to take place July 5-6, in solidarity with the victims of the earthquake in Iran.



Registration at Paet

Dean of Students Affairs and Training at the Public Authority for Applied Education and Training, Hesham Al Mutawa announced that Saturday, July 7, 1990 will be the first registration day for the typing and road paving assistant technicians courses. The two courses are presented to Kuwaitis having completed the intermediate stage at school.

Mutawa added that those interested in admission to both courses are invited to visit the Trainees Acceptance Office at Dasmam Complex in Sharq. He pointed out that personal interviews will be conducted on July 8 and 9 at 5.00 pm in Hawalli course headquarters.

Sacrificial sheep for poor

Soviets had to fight for numbers: Tajueddin

MAKKAH, June 29. (AP): The perestroika of Mikhail Gorbachev has encouraged more Soviet Muslims to perform Haj, the leader of the Soviet pilgrims' mission said yesterday.

But the leader, Taltat Tajueddin, said Moscow still refused to allow a much larger number to undertake the pilgrimage to Makkah. "We still had to fight for an increased number and for the lifting of foreign currency restrictions," he told the Associated Press.

Tajueddin, a Muscovite who is 35, speaks fluent Arabic. He studied the language in Syria. "Thanks to the policy of perestroika pursued by Mikhail Gorbachev, more Soviet Muslims were allowed to perform Haj this year," he said.

The Soviet contingent from this year's Haj was 1,527, which he said compared to a rock-bottom figure of nine during one pilgrimage season. He was not specific.

"Tens of thousands applied to perform Haj and we will fight to increase the number during the next years," said Tajueddin.

He said that the government decided that only 1,000 Muslims would be allowed to perform Haj but they succeeded in pushing the figure up.

About a thousand Soviet Muslims were estimated to have been performing the rituals in each of the recent years along with an estimated two million Muslims who come from around the world annually to Makkah to fulfill one of the five tenets of the Islamic faith.

Theocratic Saudi Arabia has so far desisted from having relations with the Soviet Union or any other communist nation. But pilgrimage visas to the holy shrines at Makkah and Medina are open to all.

However, in an apparent reaction to Gorbachev's perestroika, the Saudi monarch King Fahd recently dispatched plane loads of the Quran, the Muslim holy book, for distribution to Soviet Muslims and this week he ordered that the Soviet Haj contingent would be his guests.

Direct

Tajueddin also said that for the first time all the Soviet pilgrims came to Saudi Arabia directly on board four Aeroflot flights. Previously, they would come through Turkey or Iran.

Tajueddin estimated that there were 70 million Muslims in the Soviet Union, Islam spread there 1,100 years ago, 300 years after the birth of the Islamic faith.

The Soviet pilgrims include 1764 women and 18 children. As guests of the Saudi monarch, their lodging and transport are borne by the Saudi government.

They were supplied 13 buses for transport. They stay in government-owned apartments in Makkah

and then will be living in government tent compounds in Mina and Arafat to which they will proceed together with other pilgrims tomorrow.

The tents are air-conditioned and free food water is supplied regularly to them, aside from meals.

Members of the Soviet contingent have been profuse with statements of joy at their presence in Makkah. "This is my first chance to visit the holy lands of Makkah and Medina... this is a dream come true," said one identified as a doctor but whose name was given only in Arabic to the Saudi paper Okaz.

Meanwhile, a senior official has announced that half a million New Zealand sheep will be slaughtered during this year's Muslim pilgrimage and the meat distributed among poor Muslims in 24 countries.

Ahmed Mohammed Ali, president of the Islamic Development Bank which oversees the sacrificial meat utilisation programme, said the operation will cost 10 million Saudi riyals (\$37 million).

The project began in 1983 to make use of the meat that was otherwise left to rot in the desert. That year, only 63,000 sheep were slaughtered to mark the climax of the month-long pilgrimage to Islam's holiest sites.

The meat was sent to Afghan refugees in Pakistan and to the needy in Sudan and Djibouti.

But this year it will go to Sudan, Pakistan, Djibouti, Bangladesh, Jordan, Chad, Yemen, Lebanon, Mauritania, Mali, Burkina Faso, Egypt, Senegal, Somalia, Gambia, Syria, Niger, Sierra Leone, Guinea Bissau, Guinea, Tanzania, Comoro, Kenya and Mozambique.

The operation is a joint venture between the government and the 45-member Islamic Development Bank.

The slaughtering of the sheep commemorates the willingness of the Prophet Abraham, revered by Muslims as well as Christians, to sacrifice his son for God.

The slaughter takes place at dawn Monday after Sunday's climax of the Haj. The pilgrims celebrate for three days marking Eid Al Adha, or the feast of sacrifice.

Ali said the meat distribution operation involves some 12,000 people, including 5,584 butchers from Turkey and 4,000 assistant butchers, hired by the bank to carry out the ritual slaughter.

The bank also has contracted 285 veterinarians, 205 of them from Egypt and 70 from Turkey, to examine the sheep during the slaughter and during transportation.

The Saudi government provides slaughterhouses and refrigerators, while the bank provides the personnel and supervises transportation by land, air and sea.

Hirawi ends Gulf tour

BEIRUT, June 29. (Agencies): President Elias Hirawi returned home Wednesday after a five-day tour of oil-rich Arab countries during which he sought financial assistance to reconstruct his war-ravaged country.

A presidential statement said Hirawi flew back from Abu Dhabi.

An Arab League committee has appealed for world contributions to a \$2 billion fund to help reconstruct Lebanon.

Hirawi's tour also took him to Kuwait, Qatar and Bahrain.

The Lebanese President, upon his arrival in Beirut, praised the result of his tour and the talks he held with the leaders of the four Arab Gulf countries.

He affirmed that all of them reiterated their concern over Lebanon's future and safety and their full support to finding a solution to that country's crisis.

Meanwhile, two United Arab Emirates newspapers hailed the UAE policy towards Lebanon.

"On the basis of this policy, His Highness President Sheikh Zayed Bin Sultan Al Nahayan took the first initiative to end Lebanon's war through joint Arab action," Al Itihad said.

It referred to Sheikh Zayed's comments during talks with Hirawi yesterday in which he said the UAE would always support Lebanon and its people to achieve stability.

"Such a stand illustrates the true feeling of the President towards brotherly Lebanon. This stand stems from His Highness' sympathy and support for all Arab causes," it said.

Al Bayan said the UAE would spare no effort to ensure the success of efforts to bring about peace in Lebanon.

Referring to Hirawi's statements yesterday that Lebanon was on the road to peace, it said: "Such statements have boosted hopes for an end to the prolonged crisis in Lebanon after several Arab and international attempts have failed to make progress."

MEW contract

KUWAIT, June 29. (Kuna): Electricity and Water Minister Hmoud Al Rqobah yesterday signed a KD24 million contract with a foreign firm to upgrade the equipment at the power control centre at Jabriya area.

Rqobah told reporters that the contract includes the modernisation of the automatic control computers and the communications network.

The minister said that new computer will also be introduced to the centre's control system, saving the ministry nearly KD13 million.

He added that the new equipment are the latest in the technology of control and monitoring and noted that the new system will pinpoint malfunctions and ways of repairing them.

The minister said that the project aims at coping with the expansion in energy production.

Buoyancy in economy will continue: officials

Economists meet at seminar

THE Joint Economic Report, the bad debt settlement programme, streamlining administrative procedures at the state level, surmounting the budget deficit, bank mergers, building of the Kuwaiti man, the 1990s decade horizons, enhancing the role of the private sector, Kuwaiti foreign investments and other related issues, continue to be active priority items on the agenda of the Kuwaiti economists, officials and businessmen.

To highlight these vital issues a seminar was recently organised by the chairman of the Kuwait Chamber of Commerce and Industry in addition to interviews conducted by a local daily with some economists and bankers.

The seminar which was opened by the chairman of the Chamber of Commerce and Industry Abdulaziz Al Saqar was attended by the ex-minister of Commerce and Industry Faisal Al Khaled, the Governor of the Central Bank Sheikh Salem, Abdulaziz Al Sabah the deputy chairman of Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the chairman of the National Bank of Kuwait (NBK) Mohammad Al Khorafi, the chairman of Al Alhela Insurance Company Yusuf Ibrahim Al Ghanim, the member of the Higher Planning Council Dr Mohammad Al Sabah, the chairman of Al Shal Office Jassim Al Sadoun, the chairman of Al Alamiya Company Mohammad Al Sharek, the chairman of Bank of Kuwait and Middle East Ali Al Bader and the chairman of Commercial Bank of Kuwait Hamad Al Hamad.

Results

Faisal Al Khaled, the ex-minister of Commerce and Industry praised the joint economic report confirming that the structure which had been set up for following the implementation of these recommendations need some time to achieve results. Some reports related to the enactment of laws, legislations and decisions had been referred to the follow-up committee, the ex-minister said.

Studies on the implementation of the bad debts settlement programmes had indicated that the results were fruitful.

Meanwhile, the lecturer said that the Kuwait stock market had been accorded special concern in relation to the re-organisation process in accordance with the latest methods followed by the advanced countries.

The past period had witnessed the enactment of respective legislations aimed at governing the market's activities within the necessary legal framework. Additionally, authorities had reorganised dealings in the curb market in addition to diversifying of investment vehicles; including the setting up of investment funds which will extend investment opportunities to expatriates.

Investments

Speaking of the free trade zones, the official said these avenues were being designed to attract foreign investments to exploit natural resources and eventually the creation of new job opportunities, particularly in densely populated countries irrespective of the national income.

He added that these types of investments should coincide with special facilities to be extended by the state in addition to waiving of several administrative and control restrictions.

He disclosed that in Kuwait a comparative study in this respect was conducted and officials

found that facilities submitted by the state to the industrial installations were on par with privileges prevailing in the free zones. In the final analysis, the official said: "We are convinced that setting up of free zone in Kuwait for the time being at least will be unjustified."

The Governor of Kuwait Central Bank Sheikh Salem Al Sabah said that several recommendations contained in the economic report were being implemented to reactivate the economy. He clarified that authorities in the light of recommendations had adopted a programme to handle the problem of bad debts, in addition to addressing the position of closed and Gulf companies in Kuwait as well as balancing the deficit in the state's budget which had been realised through the issue of treasury bills and notes.

Bad debts

Meanwhile, the official commented that the bad debts settlement programme is not being undertaken as an individual problem, but deals with the problems within the context of a financial system. The importance of the programme rests in effectively appraising the involvement of the local banks. Without such a programme the entire economy of Kuwait might be exposed to a major crisis, the official said.

The chairman of Burgan Bank Sheikh Ahmed Abdullah Al Ahmad called for serious efforts to be exerted for the implementation of recommendations adopted by the Joint Economic Committee. He said that the committee chaired by the governor of the Central Bank was doing its utmost to surmount the obstacles facing the implementation of these recommendations.

Commenting on the bank's merger, the official said that this objective will minimise the administrative burdens and will reinforce the banking capital base.

Jassim Al Sadoun, said that the report was "good" and was better than previous reports on the same subject. But he added that the bad debts settlement programme was "not good" and the debts problem was not a common one to be debated as an economic problem. He criticised that the report had been set up in accordance with a political desire and here the main problem is resting.

Abdulaziz Al Saqar said that Kuwait was a commercial country and was importing most of its requirements from abroad but it was the largest commercial country in the region. During the oil era, wealth has furnished Kuwaiti merchants and resulted in the expansion of activities abroad.

He criticised the government as the previous economic reports and recommendations dealing with the economic crisis were not being implemented, but following the adopting of joint economic reports. The economic circles in the country were under the impression that the relevant recommendations will be carried out seriously particularly in the wake of forming a follow-up committee under the chairmanship of the governor of the Central Bank of Kuwait.

Meanwhile, the official attributed the Manakh crisis to the absence of economic planning, clarifying that oil prices had been increased from \$12 per barrel to about \$35 per barrel and this had resulted in the enhancing of economic activities and the increase of imports par-

ticularly in the wake of war between Iraq and Iran which eventually led to inflation.

He called for the adoption of an obvious strategy to meet international changes particularly in the light of the dramatic changes which have occurred in the Eastern bloc countries and the prospect of European unity in 1992.

The official also called for the preparation of the Kuwaiti human being and doing away with administrative red tape prevailing in the state's authorities.

Dr Mohammad Al Sabah, said that the Kuwaiti economy has witnessed a good march during the oil era despite of some cracks which had created imbalances in the economic structure. He stressed the importance of realising the population balance pointing out that this could be achieved through the building of human resources, education and training and administrative development in addition to reviewing the imported workforce.

The official also called to enhance the role of the private sector.

On the other hand, the official said that the country faced no serious problems in its financial position despite the deficit in the budget. He added that the Higher Planning Council was of the opinion that the deficit in the budget could not be attributed to government expenditure but rather the economic structure. He clarified that there were several economic activities which proved futile and eventually constituted a burden to the budget.

He added that the recommendations contained in the Joint Economic Committee Report had been designed to keep abreast with future strategy.

Improvement

Mohammad Al Khorafi said that the Kuwaiti economy witnessed a tangible improvement during 1989 particularly because of the ceasefire between Iraq and Iran and the increase in oil prices in addition to the implementation of some recommendations contained in the joint economic committee report.

Khorafi expected that the gross national product (GNP) shall record a positive growth this year in view of the oil price increase. The current account of the balance of payment will record a bigger surplus this year, he said.

Khorafi added that the non-oil sector had been released from the slow growth circle which was governing its activities in the past years. On the other hand, the official was quoted as expecting that the performance of the Gulf banks during the 1990s will be improved, pointing out that this decade will provide new banking opportunities to such banks.

Meanwhile, a local daily interviewed the chairman of the Gulf Bank Dr Abdulaziz Sultan who said current circumstances were calling for a debate on the merger of banks. He further pointed out that although this process will minimise administrative burdens it will also cancel out commercial competition.

The director-general of Kuwait Stock Exchange Hisham Al Otaibi said that the stock market witnessed significant activity after the Iraq-Iran ceasefire and that activities in financial markets everywhere were a reflection of political stability.

He said that the market's administration was saving no effort to develop the Kuwaiti bourse in order to keep abreast with the latest developments.

Dubai establishes seven-nation promotions chain

The Dubai Commerce and Tourism Promotion Board has appointed official representatives in seven countries to spearhead its international marketing drive.

After months of negotiation, a promotional network has been established which takes in Hong Kong, Japan, the UK, France, Italy, Germany and the USA.

The representatives experts in their respective markets were introduced to the press on June 27 at a press conference at the Dubai Chamber of Commerce and Industry.

Announcing the appointment of representatives in Hong Kong, Tokyo, London, Paris, Milan and Frankfurt, the promotion board's chief executive, Lawrence Mills said: "This network ensures that the Dubai message will be spread across three continents. Our representatives have been

chosen for their in-depth knowledge of their individual market places. Their experience will be invaluable in helping to make Dubai's name synonymous with free trade, enterprise and profitability as well as promoting the emirate as a new and exciting tourist destination."

The appointments follow the opening last March of the board's own representative office in the USA. The office, in Philadelphia's prestigious Penn Centre, is manned by three staff and headed by the board's senior representative (North America), Chuck Heath.

In Hong Kong, the board will be represented by a leading consultancy, Dunning and Associates whose chairman and chief executive, Leonard Dunning, is the former executive director of the Hong Kong Trade Development

Council. Dunning and Associates will be responsible for the huge Chinese market, Taiwan and the rapidly growing economies of South-East Asia. The company is involved in a wide range of promotional activities in the economic development field and acts as a adviser to the China Council for the promotion of international trade.

London marketing consultants Raitt Orr and Associates will cover the UK and Ireland. The firm, which specialises in trade, economic and tourism promotion and marketing, is active within the European Economic Community with a client list which includes large multi-national companies and government organisations. Ian Raitt and Jeffrey Ridge will handle the Dubai account.

The board's representative in France will be Paris-based business advisers Claude

Loreau and Martine Chaigne. Loreau is a member of the National Committee of French Foreign Trade Advisers. Both Loreau and Chaigne have detailed knowledge of the Middle East market.

Buraschi and De Paoli Management Consultants will cover Italy from their offices in the heart of the country's business capital, Milan. Stefano de Pauli, who heads the firm has a strong background in the international promotional field, having represented the Hong Kong Trade Development Council in Italy for 11 years.

Volker Utz has been appointed as director of the Frankfurt office, covering West and West Germany. Utz has a long association with the area, and was the vice-president of the German Business Council in Dubai for five years.

Hiro Kawakami has been appointed in Tokyo to focus on

the all-important Japanese market. After 35 years with Mitsui O.S.K. based partly in the USA, Kawakami's in-depth knowledge of his marketplace provides the board with a very strong presence in that region.

Mills said: "We are now well positioned to take advantage of opportunities arising from international developments, such as the creation of a single European market in 1992, moves towards the unification of Germany, and political reforms taking place in Eastern bloc countries."

"In the Far East, Hong Kong plays a pivotal role in the economies of South-East Asia and is the gateway to the vast Chinese market, making it a vital place in which to be represented. Meanwhile, our presence in Tokyo reflects the importance which the board attaches to tapping the dynamic investment potential of Japan."



Haji visits KFAS

Brigadier Abdul Hameed Haji Abdul Raheem, Director-General of the General Traffic Department visited the Kuwait Foundation for the Advancement of Sciences (KFAS) with Col Mustafa Juma, Director of Traffic Operations. Both officials were received by the Minister of Higher Education, Dr Ali Al Shamlan who is also the Director-General of KFAS.

Haji pointed out that the film Street Wars played an effective role in displaying traffic issues in Kuwait in a comprehensive artistic frame. At the end of the visit Haji honoured a number of foundation personnel for their participation in traffic awareness.

KUWAIT ... GULF

Kuwait expresses appreciation for EEC summit declaration

EEC-GCC talks held

KUWAIT, June 29, (AP): Kuwait yesterday expressed appreciation of the European Economic Community summit's declaration on the Middle East, but appealed to the EEC leaders to ensure implementation of the letter.

"Kuwait has received with satisfaction the declaration issued by the EEC summit in Dublin, particularly its repeated opposition to the settlement of Jews in the occupied Arab territories," Kuwaiti Deputy Premier and Foreign Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad was quoted as saying by the Kuwait News Agency.

"While Kuwait appreciates this attitude which complies with the responsibilities of the EEC states toward efforts aimed at bringing about a just peace in the Middle East, we appeal to the EEC leaders to exert the necessary efforts for carrying out what they pledged in the

Dublin statement," he added.

The summit of the 12-member community which ended Tuesday in Dublin had forcefully condemned Israel, criticising its record in the occupied Arab territories. The EEC leaders pledged to double aid to Palestinians in those territories and asked the EEC commission to speedily appoint an on-the-spot representative.

Attitude

In the United Arab Emirates two newspapers welcomed the European Economic Community's initiative in their Dublin summit to back Palestinian struggle for independence.

The Dubai-based English daily Khaleej Times commenting editorially said "The EEC move constitutes an important assertion of the independence of policy-making by the 12 member-

states and a firm manifestation of its feelings and attitude towards the Arab cause."

Referring to the EEC statement at the end of the summit condemning Israel for its atrocities in the occupied territories and reaffirming its support for Palestinians, the daily added "the measures are vital not only for their usefulness for the Palestinian struggle to regain national rights but also for their clear message to the rest of the West in relation to the Middle East conflict."

"But coming as it does shortly after America's suspension of its dialogue with the PLO, the gesture assumes special significance," it said.

"The European Economic Community has risen to its full moral stature by condemning Israel's repressive measures

against the Palestinian people," another English Daily Gulf News said.

"It is important also to see the EEC's strong reproach of the Israeli leaders and the pledge of more aid to the Palestinians as a signal of frustration with the US for failing to censure the Israeli hawks," the Dubai-based daily added.

"Certainly the EEC leaders were speaking for the whole world when they condemned Israel's lamentable human rights record in the occupied territories," the paper concluded.

Gulf meeting

Meanwhile, the Euro-Gulf meeting was held here Wednesday night with the participation of secretary general of the Gulf Co-operation Council Mamoun Al Kurdi and director of the negotiations centre at the GCC Secretariat General Ibrahim Al Mansour, in addition to

representatives of the 12 European countries.

Mamoun told reporters that talks produced some improvement concerning preparatory measures, adding that contacts with GCC governments concerning some technical obstacles are under way.

However, Mamoun said he was confident that these technical problems concerning tariff taxes between GCC states will be overcome.

Representative of the European group Juan Bratt said that the atmosphere of the meeting between the two parties was positive adding that the European group is ready to confer with the Gulf side at any time specified by the GCC.

No immediate date was set for the forthcoming meeting between the two sides.

Council

(Continued from Page 1)

ted a period of close co-operation between the executive and legislative branches of the government.

By decree, the council's duration is four years, but HH the Crown Prince and Prime Minister, Sheikh Saad Al Abdullah Al Sabah, told a press conference that it was up to the Amir to decide whether to curtail the duration.

Jasser Al Jasser, one of the veteran parliamentarians who was re-elected to the council, told the Associated Press that he would press for curtailing the council's life to a maximum of two years.

Sheikh Saad has asserted more than once since April 22 that there was no plan with the regime to revise the constitution as claimed by the opposition.

- State Minister for Municipal Affairs
- 6) Ibrahim Hmoud Mubarak Buresli
- 7) Jassem Ahmad Jassem Al Nesif
- 8) Jassem Mohammed Ahmad Al Bahar
- 9) Habib Ibrahim Shaaban
- 10) Saud Mohammed Al Faris
- 11) Abdul Latif Ahmad Al Bahar
- 12) Abdul Rahman Ahmad Al Ahmad
- 13) Abdullah Jassem Al Hajri
- 14) Abdul Aziz Hamad Al Asousi
- 15) Abdullah Omar Abdullah Al Omar
- 16) Abdul Fatah Mohammed Rafee Maarefi
- 17) Issa Abdul Mohsen Sayed Al Refai
- 18) Mohammed Ahmad Al Abdul Jalil
- 19) Mohammed Barges Mohammed Al Barges
- 20) Mohammed Khaled Al Mashan
- 21) Mohammed Sulaiman Ibrahim Al Haddad
- 22) Mishal Abdul Latif Al Hbishi
- 23) Walid Khaled Ahmad Al Mudhaf
- 24) Yacoub Sultan Al Sharhan
- 25) Youssef Sultan Al Majed

Appointed members

1) Bader Jassem Al Yaqoub — State Minister for National Council Affairs.

2) Salem Al Sabah Al Salem — Interior Minister

3) Abdul Rahman Abdullah Al Awadi — State Minister for Cabinet Affairs.

4) Abdul Wahab Sulaiman Al Fawzan — Public Health Minister

5) Fahd Abdullah Al Hasawi

Saudis may increase US Abrams tank order

LONDON, June 29, (Kuna): The Saudi Arabian government may increase its order of US Abrams tanks from 315 to 700, according to a report in this week's issue of Jane's defence weekly.

The specialist magazine, which is published in London, said the initial sale of 315 US Abrams M1A2 tanks to the kingdom was held up by the Saudis when the cost escalated recently.

That followed a decision by the US to cut its production line for the US Army, which raised the cost per tank from \$3.1 to \$5 million, it was pointed out.

But the magazine cited Pentagon sources as saying Saudi Arabia is now expected to approve the sale shortly, following a recent visit to the kingdom by the director of the US Defence Security Assistance Agency, Charles Brown.

America was reportedly offered to reduce the cost per tank to \$4.1 million through contract and production schedule adjustments.

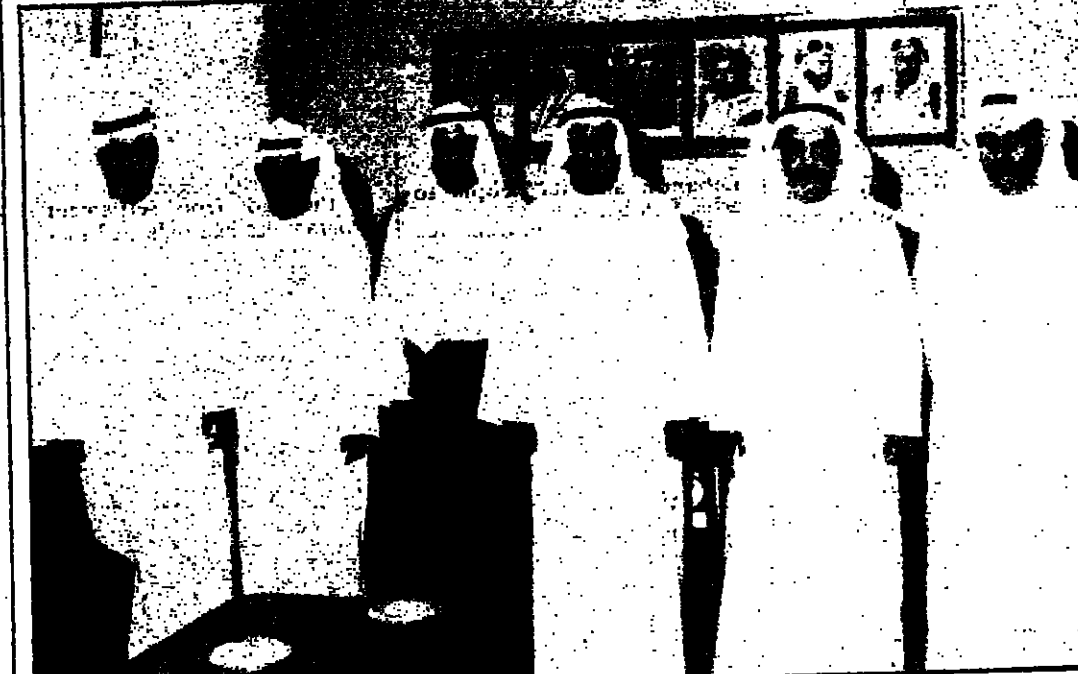
And Saudi Arabia is reportedly seeking further cost reductions by increasing its initial order to fill its total requirement of between 600 and 700 tanks.

The kingdom had originally intended to split the purchase between the Abrams and the lighter Brazilian-made "EE-TI Osorio," the magazine noted.



Sheikh Jaber visited

Sheikh Khalifa Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah — President of Kuwait Judo and Taekwondo Federation, with the board members/directors paid a visit on Thursday, June 28, to His Excellency the Minister of Social Affairs and Labour — Sheikh Jaber Abdullah Al Jaber Al Sabah at his office to extend their heartfelt congratulations on the occasion of his new appointment, wishing him all success and progress.



Vacate homes notice

Umm Haiman residents homeless

RESIDENTS at block "C" in Umm Al Haiman area are going through a housing nightmare after receiving notices to vacate. They stated that they don't have any other place to live beside these houses.

Umm Mohammed said that they have been living in popular houses attached to the National Housing Authority. She added that three months ago they received notices from the authority to leave their houses. They have until August 30, 1990.

She indicated that her husband is currently working at the Ministry of Defence and the ministry is unwilling to accept responsibility to find them a replacement home. She stated that house rents have become very expensive in addition to the fact that the flats system is not adequate for their living requirements.

She pointed out that it would be a hard thing to move to any other place particularly as the children go to school in the area. She said that now they have only one month to leave and she joins

to neighbours living near by and that the notice to vacate came as a surprise to them.

Another resident who is currently working as a police officer since 1961 has lived in Umm Al Haiman along with his family since 1976. He said that he had spent a total of KD 1500 for restoring his house in Umm Al Haiman and it would be very difficult for him to move out now. He hoped that the Ministry of Interior will grant him a house as a replacement for the long years of service he has already served.

Another resident stated that they have been living in Umm Al Haiman for more than 20 years now. She added that all the family have grown accustomed

Border chase

SECURITY patrols of Jahra governorate along with Iraqi authorities participated in a chase at the Kuwait-Iraqi border and were able to arrest two Saudi nationals who confessed that they smuggled 31 liquor bottles through borders. The convicts told Kuwaiti authorities that they were able to smuggle the liquor into Kuwait and buried it in the desert.

Care for the handicapped: Minister of Social Affairs and Labour, Sheikh Jaber Al Abdullah Al Jaber approved the formation of the permanent Kuwaiti National Committee for Handicapped Care. The committee will be headed by Assistant Undersecretary for Social Care at the Ministry of Social Affairs and Labour.

The committee will apply more effective policies towards reinforcing handicapped conditions in order to enable them to fully interact with the society as normal individuals.

The committee will also work towards modifying handicapped services through concerned parties.

Farwaniya council meets: Farwaniya Governorate Council held its 10th meeting under the leadership of Abdullah Yusuf Al Qatami at the governorate building. At the beginning of the meeting Qatami welcomed attendants and thanked committee members for their efforts exerted in upgrading the level of services in various fields.

The council discussed a number of complaints sent by residents at the governorate and took decisions upon them. The council also called upon concerned parties to give the name one of the street after the late Ahmad Al Adwani. The leader of the meeting also thanked Yarmouk Co-operative Society for their initiative in preventing all cigarette sales and asking other societies to take the same step.

Kuwait-Iran sea lanes to open: The sea lane between Kuwait and Iran will be re-opened soon, a local daily quoted the director-general of Kuwait-Iranian Shipping Company Ahmed Ali Dashti as saying.

He added that such a lane will be inaugurated by the arrival of the Iranian ship "Iran Hormos" affiliated to Iran Shipping Company into Al Shuwaikh Port from Busher Port of Iran on Tuesday, July 3, and will carry aboard about 75 Iranian officials who will participate in the lane inauguration ceremony.

Meanwhile, the official said that the Iranian delegation will be received by the Iranian Ambassador to Kuwait in addition to the officials in the Public Ports Authority (PPA).

Deal in jeopardy: Plans by Saudi Arabia to buy an additional 43 Tornado strike-fighter aircraft worth more than £1 billion (\$1.74 billion) from Britain are in doubt, according to a report on Friday in the Financial Times.

The newspaper quoted unnamed negotiators involved in a wide-ranging arms agreement between the two countries as saying that the deal over the 48 planes appeared to be in jeopardy.

Fifty Pakistan hajis die

JEDDAH, June 29, (Kuna): Fifty Pakistan pilgrims have so far died in Saudi Arabia, according to official news agency APP.

It quoted Pakistan Minister for Religious Affairs Khan Bahadur Khan as saying in Jeddah today that 12 died in road accidents, nine with heart attacks and 29 of natural causes.

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Young Omani woman swallows veil needle

MUSCAT, June 29, (AP): A young Omani woman was rushed to the emergency department writhing in pain this Muslim weekend, the latest victim of an increasingly new and potentially fatal cultural hazard in Arabia.

She had swallowed a needle which surgeons said was the latest in a rising number of similar cases.

Surgeons at the hospital recently saved the lives of five young women patients who had also accidentally swallowed needles. In the case of a 20-year-old, the needle had pierced the duodenum and embedded itself in her pancreas.

Other recent cases have included an 18-year-old girl with a needle stuck in her windpipe, a 16-year-old and a 13-year-old with needles lodged in the stomachs and a 17-year-old with a needle in her small bowel.

Sociologists said working

women in the city are reverting to traditionally modest dress, which means swathing themselves in long head scarves that are held tightly in place by sharp steel needles.

"When they are getting dressed, they often hold these needles between their teeth so their hands are free," said Taha Al Delamie, a fellow of Britain's Royal College of Surgeons working in the department of surgery at Muscat's Royal Hospital.

"With their head tilted backward while they adjust their headress, it is very easy to ingest a needle accidentally."

"Needle swallowing is much more widespread than is generally appreciated," said Delamie. He has carried out a detailed study of the phenomenon of needle inhalation and an ingestion case reports with three royal hospital colleagues.

One shift at oral health centre

DEPARTMENT of Advancement of Oral Health Services in Salmiya announced that it has stopped receiving patients in two shifts and reverts back to one shift only.

This announcement coincides with the graduation of the third batch of dentists who receive training at the department. Department officials were forced to shorten services quietly and without any media coverage due to shortages in dental staff.

Patients who have already registered for appointments at the centre were contacted and transferred to clinics and other centres. An official stated that this announcement came due to the shortage in the number of nursing staff at the department.

The department was originally established by the Ministry of Public Health as a training centre to qualify newly graduated dentists.

Action Line

MY SON is a student, studying in India. He has a dependent visa, No. 22, and has been sponsored by me. Previously, he came twice a year. Last time, he was in Kuwait in November, 1989, but could not come in April '90. He can come only in October. He is 19 years and six months old. Kindly throw light on the procedures I will have to carry out to allow him entry into Kuwait. Is it true that when a boy completes 19 years, his dependent visa is cancelled. If not, at what ages does it happen? Please give me some details about visit visas.

U. Shenoy

A STUDENT who wishes to remain outside Kuwait for more than six months must get prior permission to do so. This can be done by providing authenticated documents, attested by the foreign ministries of both India and Kuwait and the Kuwait embassy in India. These documents must be submitted to the Immigration Department to obtain overstay permission, which if granted, can be used by the student to stay outside for over six months. If your son's visa is still valid, then you can apply for such permission. In case it is granted, he will be eligible to re-enter Kuwait in October.

A boy's dependent visa expires after the age of 21. A girl is permitted to be sponsored by her father until her marriage, and then it is preferable for her to go under the husband's sponsorship.

Visit visa: a copy of the visitor's passport, documentary evidence showing he is related to the sponsor; sponsor's recently issued salary certificate; photocopy of the Civil ID card; duly completed visit visa application form. Although there is no salary limit, an income suitable to cover expenses would be taken into consideration while issuing a visit visa.

We would like to stress that the Immigration Department reserves the right to accept or reject an application on whatever grounds they deem fit.

I HAVE been in Kuwait for the last 12 years. I applied for a driving licence in 1982. As I had a HTV licence, I failed twice and in April 1988, I went for another test, and failed again. I have lost the original papers; I only have a photocopy of the expired papers. Can I renew the papers? Can I change it from HTV to LTV.

M.A. Sultan

TO OUR knowledge, not more than three tests are allowed for expatriates. If you have the photocopy, you can take them to the traffic department and apply for renewal on their basis and try to get an extension. If you fail, you can reapply for the licence.

The application cannot be changed from HTV to LTV. You have to apply for the light driving licence separately.

I AM an expatriate wife having an article No. 18 visa and working in one of the companies here. My husband is also here, but has an article No. 20 visa. We have all the necessary marriage contract papers.

I'm four months pregnant. Is it possible for me to deliver the baby here and have the child's residence stamped under my visa instead of my husband? We have heard it's not possible for those with domestic visa.

J.B.

TO BE eligible to get a visa for an infant, both parents must hold No. 18 visas. Or, the father must be eligible to get dependent visas, that is earn at least KD 450 in the public and KD 650 in the private sectors.

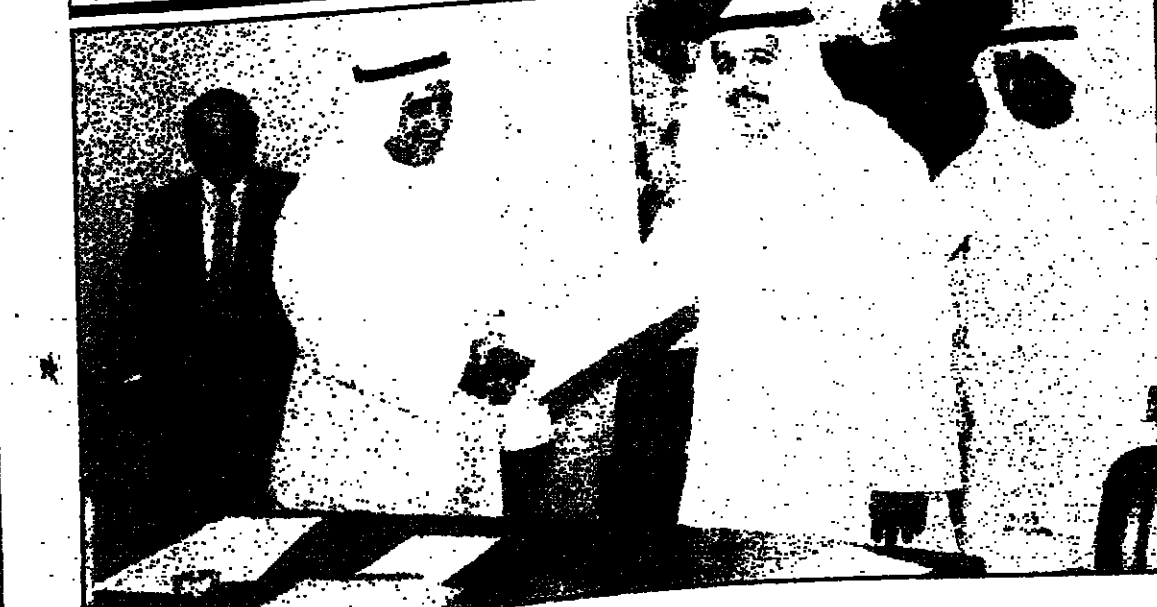
Immigration officials said that a father who holds a no. 20 visa, or a mother holding a similar iqama, is not allowed to sponsor his/her child. The law does not permit the issuance of a visa in such cases.

I AM working in Kuwait on visa No. 18 since 1985. My husband holds visa No. 20. I delivered my baby in Nov 1988. As my husband holds No. 20 visa, we sent our daughter to our country after five months of delivery. Suppose I include her name on my passport, can I bring my daughter to live with us? I miss my baby very much.

M.C.V.

A CHILD's name can be included in a mother's passport, but this does not mean that the child has got a legal right to stay in this country. She must also have an iqama, which cannot be obtained if your husband still holds No. 20 visa. The residence rules do not permit the issuance of a visa if one parent is on visa No. 20. We permit the issuance of a visa but there is not much that can be done to sympathise with you but there is not much that can be done to bring your daughter to live with you.

If you have a problem drop in a line to Action Line, Arab Times, P.O. Box 2270, Safat 13023 Kuwait or fax your questions to us on 4847495.



Agriculture contract

Chairman of the Public Authority for Agriculture Affairs and Fish Resources Sheikh Ibrahim Duali Al Ibrahim signed here Wednesday a KD650,000 contract with a local company.

Under the contract, the company will perform agricultural beautification works and establish an irrigation network along 74 kilometres of highways around the country.

The highways involved are the Fahad Expressway, the Fifth Ring Road, the Maghreb Expressway and the King Faisal Road. The duration of the contract is 360 days.

About 25,000 square metres of area will be planted with grass and provided with a sophisticated irrigation network.

EDITORIALS

ARAB TIMES

Thought for today

I BELIEVE in the discipline of silence and can talk for hours about it. — George Bernard Shaw, Irish-born playwright (1856-1950).

OPINION

Catastrophe unites Arabs

SUPERPOWERS have consistently been trying to conspire against the "edifice" of Islam and Muslims with the concept of defacing their religion and heritage.

Muslim blood "is blood" akin to that which flows in the bloodstream of the citizens of these superpowers and not "water" as depicted in the old pages of history.

History will record that the fierce battles and the ensuing bloodshed that raged between the two Muslim neighbours Iraq and Iran was essentially at the behest of these superpowers who designed the strategy to disunite Muslims with the concept of diverting their focus of attention and solidarity to address the expansionist policies of the "Zionist state".

These facts have come to light after the war between Iraq and Iran and have been the outcome of frank and self-initiative discussions between the two countries.

Facts that emerged during these candid discussions attested to the fact that the war was tailored to prevent the formation of an Iraq-Iran alliance and to circumvent their "identical and collective views" in relation to the issues of the region and the methodologies as to how about going to redress these issues.

On-going events have proved that it is not secret that the stubbornness of Israel to reject all peace moves and initiatives was "pre-planned".

Compounded with activating a "break-up" in the formation of an Islamic force, is the underlying terrible war which encompassed many Arab sides and Palestinian forces. Israel in its aggression against the Palestinian resistance and the legitimate rights of the Palestinian people have claimed at the UN and other international arenas and that it is difficult for her to make peace with entities that fight each other.

The catastrophe that hit Iran has signalled the co-operative spirit of the Arab world and is amply evidenced in the gesture of Iraq to be the first to rush aid to Iran. An Iraqi plane carrying aid landed at Tehran airport for the first time in 10 years.

This action was immediately followed by many other Arab countries, including Kuwait, Saudi Arabia, UAE, Qatar, Oman and many others.

This proves beyond a doubt that the regional security in the Gulf will only be established by the people of the Gulf — without the need of foreign assistance. The Arabs have during history appreciated and held up the concept that: "True feelings are examined and tested during difficult times and during catastrophes. During catastrophes, brothers jump over all other considerations — including even protracted wars".

The big powers succeeded in making Muslims fight for some time. They succeeded in disuniting them and in diverting their attention, but it was a temporary success. Now, the war has stopped and talk is only directed to the future, the future of peace, security and prosperity for the Gulf region, vital for the whole world.

If the price for this was several tens of thousands of Iranian victims, which is a heavy price, our only consolation is the final good result.

The feelings and hearts of Muslims have now united because of the catastrophe. It has become very clear for Iran that the link between it and its neighbours is much more stronger and bigger than the dubious political dreams, the imaginary theories and the expansionist ambitions mainly motivated by the devils of East and West.

One religion links Iran and its neighbours. A pure Islamic brotherhood, joint interests in a stable secure and a prosperous Gulf without exception or discrimination.

Once again, harmful things may at times lead to good results. Almighty Allah has examined our faith and found it strong enough to start another chapter.

Ahmed Al Jarallah

Berlin's wound slowly healing

WEST BERLIN, June 29, (Reuters): Seen from the air, Berlin's wound is slowly healing.

All along the 163-km (103-mile) Berlin Wall — from the rural western fringes to the inner-city border — East and West German workers are beavering to reconnect by Sunday roads severed for decades.

"Every day we see things which just won't be there tomorrow," said British Army Air Corps captain Peter Crosby, wheeling low over the crumbling wall in his tiny Gazelle helicopter.

Hovering above the frontier at Bernauer Strasse, the heart of old Berlin and scene of many dramas when the wall went up, Crosby pointed out the toppled guard towers and piles of rubble.

Bulldozers were shoving segments of wall aside while workers swept roads clear of the sand that had covered them in the former death strip since the communists built the wall in August 1961 to stop East Germans fleeing to the West.

TODAY IN HISTORY

1574 — William of Orange persuades Holland to open dikes to hinder Spanish siege of Leyden.

1652 — England declares war on the Dutch.

1845 — Anglo-French expedition is sent to Madagascar against local ruler.

1876 — Serbia, under nationalist Jovan Ristich, declares war on Turkey.

1913 — Second Balkan War opens with Bulgaria attacking Serbian and Greek position.

1930 — Britain recognises independence of Iraq.

1934 — Nazi purge begins in Germany, with Adolf Hitler getting rid of hundreds of political and military leaders.

1950 — US President Harry S. Truman announces he has ordered US troops stationed in Japan to help Republic of Korea repel North Korean invaders.

1956 — Leeward Islands federation is dissolved to enable islands to enter Caribbean federation.

1960 — Independence of Congolese republic is proclaimed under President Kasavubu with Patrice Lumumba as premier.

1964 — United Nations military operations in Congo end.

1965 — Ceasefire is signed between India and Pakistan.

1971 — Three Soviet cosmonauts, in space for more than three weeks, are found dead when their spacecraft lands.

1976 — US spacecraft photographs of Mars show that planet once sustained abundant and rapidly flowing water.

1987 — Supreme Soviet, USSR's nominal parliament, passes laws designed to reverse nation's economic decline.

1989 — Angolan government accuses Unita rebels of violating June 24 ceasefire.

Mengistu confuses West

Reforms face analogy problems

Beginning today we shall serialise a three-part story on Ethiopia. Following is part one.

ADDIS ABABA, (UPI): When President Mengistu Haile Mariam stood up on March 5 this year and told Ethiopians that perhaps, after all, he wasn't a Marxist, nor were they, there were two immediate and quite predictable responses from the outside world.

The first was to draw immediate parallels with the political earthquake that last year hit Eastern Europe, to wax lyrical about students dancing in the street and to draw extensive symbolic morals from the removal of a billboard-sized group portrait of Marx, Lenin and Engels from a zealous triptych overlooking Addis Ababa's drab Revolution Square.

"The wide-ranging reforms outlined on Monday," wrote one major European newspaper on March 7, "are the most striking results to date of the winds of change from Eastern Europe now threatening to disturb the status quo in more than a score of Arab and African nations."

The second response was to doubt utterly the authenticity of Mengistu's reforming zeal, accuse the Ethiopians of leaping on bandwagons and note authoritatively that Gorbachev's Russia had left the Ethiopian civil war effort in the financial lurch and that maybe the United States was a better bet at the bank.

Liberalizing

By March 8, the same major European newspaper was writing that, "The declaration by President Mengistu of Ethiopia that he is liberalizing his Marxist regime calls for an effort of the imagination."

After all, it was pointed out, Mengistu had been one of Africa's most committed Marxists since 1977.

Three months on, with the dust well and truly settled, senior Western diplomats and economic officials in Addis Ababa are saying that both responses were wrong.

What Mengistu promised, in essence, and what the 11th plenum of the worker's party endorsed, was a programme to create a mixed economy in which state, private enterprise and co-operatives would all take a part, the abolition of state land and agriculture control, and limited tolerance of political opposition within the context of a renamed Democratic Unity Party of Ethiopia.

It took the president five hours to explain, and about halfway through he got down to the heart of the matter.

"As seen from all angles, the transition to the socialist system... has proved difficult and unattainable," he said. What was needed, he went on, was not a "system" at all but a pragmatic plan to extricate Ethiopia from its chronic economic backwardness.

"In light of the special political trends in the world of today, we find ourselves in quite a unique situation... our era is characterized by quite fundamental changes. Formerly established thoughts and outlooks regarding social development are in the process of change," he said.

"The growth of a country like ours... is supported by assistance from developed nations. There is therefore no alternative to giving due attention to the changes that have surfaced at the international level," the president said.

This statement, say Addis observers, lies at the heart of the West's confused response. Heard one way, it sounds like those "winds of change" are blowing freely down the Red Sea into the Horn of Africa.



Mengistu... not a Marxist.

Africa. Heard another, it sounds like a straight cynical appeal for cash from a US Congress that is making few bones about where its aid money is going to go for preference.

But it is more complicated than that, some World Bank and International Monetary Fund officials are saying in private.

In public, they're saying nothing, especially not in Addis Ababa, where a team of bankers and funders has just flown back to Washington after beginning the delicate progress of trying to hammer out a structural adjustment programme for Ethiopia, after 13 years of Marxist adjustment.

"It would be inappropriate to comment at this stage," said James Goering, resident World Bank representative in the Ethiopian capital.

In the first place, the reforms are not truly opportunistic because they have, in fact, been in the works for at least three years.

The government sat down in 1987 to review where it had gone wrong. By November 1988, Mengistu was telling the ninth plenum of the worker's party that perhaps a fresh look at the private sector was needed. A series of task forces was established to study economic problems. In July 1989, the government issued three directives about development of small enterprises, reform of the hotel and tourist industry, and encouragement of joint ventures with foreign companies.

Coffee

In late October 1989, Mengistu cut the state coffee tax by 50 per cent and allowed the state coffee purchase price to rise by about 125 per cent in a bid to encourage farmers to plant more of the country's virtually sole foreign currency earner. Minor excise adjustments were made. The regulation worker's coveralls suddenly ceased to be compulsory for civil servants and a ban on Sunday driving was lifted.

Hence by the time the president made his big speech this year, numerous government departments had been working on reform ideas for the best part of 40 months. The call to the World Bank and the IMF, which came around the same time as the speech, was hardly a surprise to either agency.

In late March Ethiopia sent a high-level delegation to Washington to brief the agencies and initiate discussions on a Structural Adjustment Programme, or SAP, a set of economic targets to be achieved in return for financial support.

In return, an IMF and World Bank team travelled in late April to Addis Ababa to start work on a policy framework paper, the basis for a typical three-year SAP.

"Our understanding is that an agreement with the World Bank and the IMF would start during the next fiscal year," Deputy Prime Minister Wolle Chekol said earlier this month.

"The responsible approach is to see how far we can get," said one Western economic official.

"It's worth remembering that Ethiopia is one of the few governments in Africa that has always kept up to date on its debt obligations. They don't undertake commitments lightly," he adds.

Talks

"The first stage of talks has gone well," says Workneh Kassie of Ethiopia's National Committee for Central Planning. "We understand there is now a basis for agreement."

All this, it would appear, gives the lie to the notion that the reforms are cosmetic.

On the other hand, they are not exactly on the dramatic level of those in Eastern Europe.

The World Bank and the IMF both welcomed the change, but were quick to point out that there seemed little point in investing in Ethiopia as long as the government continued to spend 60 per cent of its budget on fighting two civil wars in the north of the country.

"We told them we wanted to help, but that this was a major stumbling block," said one US official.

Both agencies are healthily skeptical about Ethiopia's ability to meet any macro-economic targets set, according to Washington sources.

There is disappointment, too, about the pace of reform implementation. Three months after the announced plans, the Ethiopian cabinet has been remarkably slow to implement anything concrete.

Liberalization of the grain market went into immediate effect and produced dramatic changes in the price of tef — the most popular indigenous grain — in the capital. Peasants could suddenly sell to whom they pleased, the black market disappeared overnight and the effective price of the grain halved.

Decrees also have abolished state control of the housing market, lifted a ban on private banks, abolished the need for trade licenses for businessmen and announced that the incentives will be forthcoming for private enterprise.

But little of this has been given any concrete shape. It is unclear, for example, what the tax incentives will actually be, or how, despite pledges of "encouragement" for foreign and local investors, those investors will actively be given access to markets or persuaded of the stability of investment.

"It's as if the reforms have left the bureaucracy behind. The bureaucracy still wants, everything stamped in triplicate," said one Western diplomat in Addis Ababa. "How can you succeed when foreigners still need to fill out a form to get in a taxi?"

(To be continued)

Alliance hopes to emerge with new role
Nato prepares for key summit

BRUSSELS, (Reuters): Nato has won the cold war. But can it change with the times and win the peace?

After four decades of guarding against the threat from a now-crumbling Warsaw Pact, Nato is preparing for the most important summit in its history — and hoping that it can emerge with an important role in the new Europe.

The alliance's 16 leaders gather in London next week to start work on a programme of reforms they hope will convince public opinion that Nato should continue to exist and reassure the Soviet Union that it poses no threat.

But, with time pressing, diplomats and officials are beginning to worry that the summit may not produce anything concrete to help resolve German unification, arms control problems and speed the building of a new European order.

Convince

"We're extremely sensitive to suggestions that Nato hasn't got anything left to do," said one senior diplomat. "I'm worried that people will say the summit has given us nothing new."

Western attempts to convince Moscow that a united Germany should be a member of the North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (Nato) will top the agenda at the July 5 and 6 meeting.

The Soviet Union would prefer to see potential German military might checked by a pan-European security structure and the two military blocs dissolved.

Both sides are still far apart on the issue, despite the fact that Nato has offered a nine-point plan designed to soothe Soviet security concerns. Those assurances include a pledge not to station Nato forces in what is now East Germany.

"We're trying to convince the Soviets, but they're just not playing ball," sighed one Nato official.

The alliance is considering a West German plan to offer cuts soon in a united Germany's armed forces, something that Moscow badly wants, as part of wider European arms reductions. But no decision is expected by the summit.

Other key issues on the agenda, including the future of nuclear weapons and a major review of 25-year-old alliance military strategies, show little sign of movement so far.

Nato Secretary-General Manfred Woerner, who is resolutely upbeat about the alliance's future, confidently predicted earlier this month that the summit would produce a mandate for talks with

Moscow on cutting short-range nuclear weapons (SNF).

But officials and diplomats say this is now unlikely.

An alliance summit held in Brussels just over a year ago was split by a row over whether short-range weapons, most of which are based in West Germany, should be modernised.

Bonn, which faces a strong anti-nuclear lobby and national elections in December, has been pushing hard to include all ground-launched missiles and nuclear artillery shells in negotiations due to start early next year.

Support

It has won support for this from many allies, except the United States, which supplies the weapons, and Britain.

"The position is not clear yet. Some people think we should keep a minimum level of ground-based weapons to protect US forces in Europe," said another diplomat.

"We all agree we should keep nuclear weapons in some form as long as the Soviets have them and we're all eager to avoid any public disagreements. But that's about where agreement ends."

On the horizon is another row about nuclear weapons, this time about a new generation of US air-launched missiles due for deployment in Europe by the mid-1990s.

West Germany has already told its allies it will not accept the weapon — angering Britain and the United States which believe that Germany must not be "denuclearised."

There is also growing concern within Nato that a landmark East-West agreement on cutting conventional forces in Europe (CFE) may not be signed this year, because of problems about some weapons and the stalemate over Germany's military status.

Nato officials are worried that failure to sign an agreement by the end of this year could deal public confidence in the alliance a harsh blow.

To make sure this does not happen, Nato has made the signing of a conventional arms treaty the precondition for holding a summit of the 35-nation Conference on Security and Co-operation in Europe (CSCE) this year — something Moscow badly wants.

The Soviet Union sees the loosely-organised CSCE, which groups all European states except Albania with the United States and Canada, as the

foundation of a new security structure and a way to remain linked to the rest of Europe.

Nato has agreed to Soviet demands that CSCE should be strengthened, with plans to give it a secretariat and hold regular ministerial meetings.

Competition

It is also working on a programme for the development of CSCE that will be ready by the summit — but diplomats say it will not give away any of Nato's authority in security matters nor produce any radical new initiatives.

Apart from CSCE, the alliance faces growing competition from the 12-nation European Economic Community, which eventually expects to take on a security role — traditionally Nato's preserve.

Nato argues that it must continue as the only Western forum which locks the United States and Canada into Europe.

The London summit is also supposed to set in train a major review of Nato's current military strategy. Publicly, Nato says that all of its old ideas are up for reassessment.

In practice, this is not so. Officials and diplomats say the names may change but that the alliance is almost certain to remain committed to two key principles of its strategy — flexible response and first use.

These principles have been singled out for harsh criticism by Moscow, which insists that Nato's doctrine must change.

Flexible response involves using a mixture of nuclear and conventional weapons at varying levels that would be unpredictable to any enemy. First use reserves the right to launch the initial nuclear strike in any conflict.

Washington has already privately told its allies that both of these strategies must remain in place. The alliance has pledged to become more political and less military in nature, although it is not yet clear what is meant by this. Nato has little competence or experience in trade or economic affairs.

One idea recently floated within the alliance, and supported by the United States, is that Nato should take on a wider security role to deal with other global threats — such as the spread of nuclear and chemical weapons technology.

But France, which remains a member, although it left the integrated military structure in 1966, and Canada are among allies opposed to Nato trying to become the world's policeman.

Taiwan
China offered olive branch

TAIPEI, (UPI): After four decades of hostility, Taiwan has offered to discuss reunification with China but no one expects anything to happen soon.

In his inaugural address May 20, President Lee Teng-hui announced the government's intention to terminate formally the state of war with China and invited Taiwan's communist neighbour to sit down for reunification talks. Taiwan "would be willing, on a basis of equality, to establish channels of communication, and completely open up academic, cultural, economic, trade, scientific, and technological exchange," with China, he said.

Negotiations

"No one expects the Kuomintang or the Chinese Communist Party, or Taiwan and China, to start serious negotiations in a week," said Ting Tin-yu, head of the Public Opinion Research Foundation. "But Lee's statements set a positive and healthy atmosphere for talks."

Lee's preconditions — including that China introduce democracy and a free-market system — render negotiations virtually impossible for now.

Chinese Communist Party leader Jiang Zemin has welcomed Lee's offer to improve relations but said his conditions were "improper and lacked sincerity."

But Lee's invitation signals a significant shift in attitude, capping more than two years of cautious warming of unofficial relations.

"President Lee has indicated that Taiwan is no longer insisting on its 'Three no's policy," said Wu Wen-cheng, a professor at Soochow University. "We are moving into a more flexible and pragmatic age."

The Nationalist government's "Three no's" policy, enacted after it lost the Chinese civil war in 1949, rules out any contact, negotiation or compromise with what it termed the "communist bandit regime."

Lee's speech was welcomed by both hardliners, who always suspected that Lee was secretly in favour of a Taiwan independent of China, and by the opposition, because ending hostilities would pave the way for further democratization at home.

The change also signals Taiwan's new confidence in its world role and in its relations with China. With \$70 billion in foreign exchange reserves and ranked 13th among trading nations, the island constitutes a major economic force.

"As we get richer, we deserve more international recognition," said Ma Ying-jeou, executive secretary of a cabinet-level task force on Chinese affairs. "Beijing can't continue to attract our capital without making concessions."

Ignore

Taiwan has made it hard for China to ignore its economic strength. With promises of generous financial aid, Taipei has established diplomatic relations with a number of Third World countries, such as Liberia and Belize, that simultaneously recognize Beijing.

This policy of "flexible diplomacy" — a break from Taiwan's past insistence that other countries choose between it and China has put Beijing on the defensive and forced it to break off relations with the targeted countries.

"Taiwan is handing over the ball to Beijing for the first time in 40 years of ping-pong diplomacy," said Antonio Chiang, publisher of the respected Journalist magazine. "It is a game of action and reaction. Only in the past, Beijing has always taken the offensive."

This time, the Nationalist government also might have no other choice. Since it began allowing unofficial contacts with China more than two years ago, the Taiwanese have been swept up in a wave of mainland fever.

In November 1987, Taiwan began allowing limited family visits across the Taiwan Strait and cash-rich Taiwanese have deluged their relatives in China with presents of colour televisions, gold and money.

China's coastal province, eager for badly needed hard currency and technological knowhow, offer incentives such as low-interest loans to Taiwanese businessmen.

QUOTE ME

"Israel has reached a crossroad... either to continue the road till the achievement... of an Israel from the Euphrates to the Nile, or to retreat. If Israel retreats... it will be a strategic and ideological retreat. Any compromise on the Palestinian cause won't harm the Palestinians alone, but all other Arab countries... Israel will say this (Arab) leader, deputy ruler or viceroys is not fit for this country, or that person is not fit for that post." — Saddam Hussein at a commemoration ceremony.

"My visit to the UAE is within a Gulf tour to consult on an agreement on a balanced oil policy. A drop in oil prices harms all Opec members but the harm is bigger to such an indebted and more populated country as Iraq. Overproduction in the market is pushing prices down. A loss of one dollar a barrel is equivalent to \$1 billion lost for Iraq." — Iraqi Deputy Prime Minister Saadoun Hammadi.

"We are at the beginning of a process of perfecting the political and institutional life of our society which will take years of work and which will require sustained dialogue between the party and the people." The ruling Cuban Communist Party politburo said in a statement in the party newspaper, Granma.

"The government has taken over and the parents have no power. The transfusion will go ahead against their will. The condition of the child is very serious. It is very doubtful if the child is going to survive." — Cypriot health minister on a girl whose parents refused her medical help for leukaemia because of her parents' religious objections.

"I recorded a few songs on environment and I want them to be entertaining, of course, and without John after being appointed UN ambassador for environment."

"Bad luck exists... we dominated three quarters of the match and the team played magnificently. We bit proud of the side. Now Belgium and Brazil — two are out of the World Cup. I have coached Belgium in 108 matches and this was one of the very best." — Belgian coach Guy Thys.

War inevitable unless US deters Israel, says Saddam

LONDON, June 29, (UPI): Iraqi President Saddam Hussein believes another Mideast war is inevitable unless Washington deters Israel from a goal he claims of expelling all Palestinians and dominating the Arab world, the Wall Street Journal said yesterday.

The Iraqi leader, in his first interview with a Western newspaper in three years, said Baghdad would resist Israeli aggression against any Arab nation — even if it meant war.

"If Israel attacks one country and there is no response then the second country to be

attacked surely will be Iraq," said Saddam, who in recent months has threatened to "scorch half of Israel" with poison gas if it attacked.

"Iraq is in possession of binary chemical weapons," he said. "Our scientists and military men calculate this is sufficient enough to deter an Israeli nuclear attack."

Saddam said in the European edition of the newspaper that the immediate cause of regional tension was the decision by Israel's

new right-wing government to proceed with resettling Soviet Jewish emigres in the occupied territories.

He said Israel had decided to "place immigration and absorption foremost among its national objectives," and fanned Arab fears by declaring that "the eternal right of the Jewish people to Eretz Yisrael is not subject to question, and is intertwined with its right to security and peace."

Eretz Yisrael is generally seen to include Israel and the West Bank, which has been

occupied by Israel since its victory in the 1967 war, and Saddam said Israel was seeking a pretext to push its remaining one million Palestinians into neighbouring Jordan.

"If they've prepared such a scheme, then aggression must occur," the Iraqi president said. "You cannot avoid war."

The newspaper said the president during the three-and-a-half-hour interview claimed the United States, and to a lesser extent Britain, were conducting an international

smear campaign against Iraq to create a climate of support for an attack by Israel.

Washington must rein in Israel, and withdraw its naval forces from the Gulf, where the US military is no longer required to protect oil tankers because the Iran-Iraq war is over, he said.

He condemned the Bush administration for suspending dialogue with the Palestinian Liberation Organisation because of an attempted commando assault in Israel.

Israeli warplanes are currently stationed in an American base in Turkey for an imminent strike on Iraq and the Palestinian positions there, a press report said in Kuwait yesterday.

In a dispatch from Tunis, a Kuwaiti daily quoted "a well-informed" Arab source as saying the stationing of the Israeli warplanes comes within the framework of the continuous campaign launched against Iraq and an attempt to attack Palestinian forces which have been transferred there.

Rafsanjani praises Western aid givers

General Assembly calls for emergency aid: aftershocks continue

TEHRAN, June 29, (Agencies): President Hashemi Rafsanjani said today that Iran should be thankful for foreign aid for earthquake victims and criticised anti-Western hardliners for opposing it.

"Logic says if our people have no tents and the weather is bad, we should accept foreign aid," Rafsanjani told a Friday prayer gathering at the Tehran University campus.

He rebuked an editorial last week in the newspaper Jomhuri Islami that said people buried under earthquake rubble would still chant "death to America" and refuse aid from Iran's enemies.

Among the many nations that have given Iran assistance after the quake are Iraq, the United States, Britain, Saudi Arabia and other countries considered foes by Tehran.

Rafsanjani, seen as a pragmatist in Iran's Islamic government, did not comment today on whether Iran should improve relations with the West.

But he called for an end to one-sided criticism of the earthquake relief effort.

"If someone comments only about the negative issues it will disappoint the people who have been working hard in the relief effort," he said.

Yesterday an Iranian diplomatic official told the Associated Press that Iran wants to improve ties with all nations except for arch-enemies Israel and South Africa. But he said the US government had spoiled an opportunity for better relations by giving only \$295,000 for quake relief.

Western diplomats in Iran believe the quake aid will provide Rafsanjani with the lever gradually to introduce more Western investment in Iran.

An earthquake measuring 4.6 on the Richter scale shook north-western Iran yesterday, the latest in a series of aftershocks that has made relief work dangerous in the area.

Late Wednesday, Soviet rescue workers pulled a 9-year-old boy alive but comatose from the rubble of his home almost a week after the quake and rushed him to hospital, the official news agency said.

The boy, Morteza Amirpour, was the 19th survivor to be found between Monday and Wednesday. Iran said he suffered only minor injuries but was in a coma when found by Soviet relief workers under the debris of his home in Rahmatabad, near Roudbar, some 145 miles (230 km) northwest of Tehran.

Two women and a boy were dug out alive Tuesday. Another 15 were found in Manjil a day earlier, including a 6-year-old boy who spent four and a half days in a refrigerator.

Iran's UN ambassador yesterday thanked the 86 nations which have contributed earthquake aid and issued an urgent appeal for international assistance to rebuild the devastated region.

Kamal Kharrazi, Iran's permanent representative, delivered a speech to a special session of the General Assembly which unanimously called upon UN member states, observers and international organisations to contribute generously to Iranian earthquake relief. About 115 nations sponsored the resolution.

The United States said it had sent another \$470,000 in emergency relief to victims of last week's earthquake, bringing Washington's total package to \$761,000.

The Chinese government has donated 3 million yuan (\$638,000) in relief material to assist Iran in recovering from a devastating earthquake, official media reported yesterday.

Japan will send emergency supplies worth 203.85 million yen (\$1.32 million) to supplement earlier aid to victims, the Foreign Ministry said today.

Cuba's Health Ministry called on Cubans to donate blood so it could send emergency supplies of plasma and serum to Iran to help wounded survivors of the earthquake.

Malaysia will donate medical and other supplies worth more than \$100,000 to help earthquake victims, Malaysian Foreign Minister Abu Hassan Omar said yesterday.

"I don't think we see the people who are under the debris saying, 'we don't want foreign aid,'" the president said, without referring specifically to the newspaper.

"The response and activities of the foreigners were really good and acceptable."

The official Islamic Republic News Agency said three aftershocks were felt last night, with one measuring 5 on the Richter scale rolling through the capital.



An Iranian woman walks past a wall painting in Tehran, showing a woman resistant during the Gulf war campaign. (Reuters wirephoto)

Samson-Delilah love note

Found among Dead Sea scrolls

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 29, (AP): A scholar disclosed that a fragment of a letter from the Biblical strongman Samson, possibly a love note to the temptress Delilah, had been found among the Dead Sea scrolls.

John Strugnell, head of a 22-member team of scholars with exclusive access to most of the unpublished scrolls, said he recently stumbled on a fragment containing nine words and three lines of the letter.

"It has to be a copy of a letter sent by Samson... (but was it) to Delilah? Unfortunately, we don't know," he said, adding he had deciphered little about what Samson wrote at this point but would publish more details soon.

Strugnell, the world's leading expert on the Dead Sea scrolls, said it was clear from the first few words of the letter, what he called the "address," that it was without question from Samson.

He suggested that it may be a love letter because it fit into the context of "erotic and sapient literature" that developed in the early Jewish period. The letter was not signed, he said.

Samson, whose story is told in the Book of Judges, was known for feats of enormous strength, such as slaying 1,000 Philistines with a jawbone of an ass.

But he was stopped by Delilah, who was sent by the Philistines. She seduced him, learned that the secret to his strength was his hair and cut it off while he was sleeping.

Strugnell, a Harvard University professor, announced the existence of the letter as an example of discoveries that are expected in the near future.

Alitinkaya said Turkey was currently allowing an

average flow of 500 cubic metres a second downstream.

He and other scholars on a five-member oversight committee which controls access to the scrolls defended the slow pace of publishing manuscripts from the ancient library found at Qumran on the Dead Sea from 1947-52.

They also responded to criticism that they unfairly prevented other scholars from looking at scroll fragments during a news conference held in conjunction with the second international conference on Biblical archaeology.

Shmaryahu Talmon, a Hebrew University scholar on the Israeli oversight committee, told reporters that measures had been introduced in the past three years to expand access, to set timetables for publication and to compile a catalogue of manuscripts and published scroll studies.

"The pace has been speeded up without lowering standards of scholarship," Talmon said. "We will try to open up as far as possible the material we have."

Talmon said scrolls that have already been published and 50 plates of fragments that have not been assigned to scholars on the team will be open for inspection by any researcher.

However, he said access would not be granted to material held by the research team because scholars had invested whole careers in piecing together fragments and they should have the right to publish the material first.

"It would not be fair to rob them of the fruit of their labour," Talmon said.

9 injured in Sidon Shiite clashes

SIDON, Lebanon, June 29, (AP): Rival Shiite Muslim militias clashed with mortars and machine guns in south Lebanon overnight. Police said today nine people were wounded.

A police spokesman, who cannot be named in line with regulations, said the victims were wounded in a 10-hour duel between the pro-Iranian Hezbollah, and the pro-Syrian Amal, Arabic for hope, in the apple province south-east of this port city.

The spokesman said it could not be determined who provoked the duel which died down at 4 am (0100 GMT).

Witnesses in Sidon, 25 miles (40 kilometres) south of Beirut said the thuds of exploding mortar rounds echoed in the region.

Early in the morning, smoke billowed from the wooded hills of Jbea, Hounin and Ein Bouswar that overlooked the Mediterranean southeast of Sidon, they said.

Amal and Hezbollah have been fighting intermittently for three years for dominance of the 1.2 million Shiites, the largest community in Lebanon which has a population of four million spread over 17 sects.

By Police count, the Amal-Hezbollah power struggle has killed 1,049 people and wounded 3,150 in south Lebanon, west Beirut and the eastern Bekaa Valley.

In other developments bombs exploded in Beirut and two southern cities yesterday, killing a seven-year-old girl and wounding 13 other people, police reported.

The girl was slain in a bomb blast that wrecked the first-floor office of the pro-Iraqi Baath Arab Socialist Party in the southern provincial capital of Sidon. Four other people were wounded, police said.

An hour earlier, a car bomb exploded 400 yards (metres) from a Syrian Army checkpoint in the residential Talei Al Khayyat district of Muslim west Beirut, wounding six people, a police spokesman said.

Samir Arabia's Foreign Minister, Prince Saud Al Faisal, arrived today for talks with Damascus leaders of developments in Lebanon. (AP)

The United Nations Children's Fund will launch an "education for peace" training programme for children living in Lebanon, a UN official announced yesterday.

"A whole generation of children has seen nothing" of life, Andre Robertford, Lebanon's UNICEF representative, told a news conference in West Beirut.

The Lebanese Army under Hinni received the first consignment of military hardware from Algeria yesterday, military sources said. (AP)

Camp We want to return: Nidal

BEIRUT, June 29, (AP): Abu Nidal's radical Palestinian faction said today it wanted to return to south Lebanon's Rashidiyah refugee camp after being expelled two weeks ago by PLO fighters.

"We want to return to Rashidiyah but on condition that the situation goes back to what it was before the series of crimes committed against our people," said Mansour Hamdan, official spokesman for Fatah Revolutionary Council.

PLO chairman Yasser Arafat's own Fatah group cracked down on Abu Nidal's men in nine hours of house-to-house fighting in Rashidiyah June 17-18 that left five people killed and 16 wounded.

By crushing Abu Nidal's men, Arafat established undisputed control over Rashidiyah near the southern port city of Tyre, 50 miles (80 kilometres) of Beirut.

Under Turkey's new plan, Turkey said it could allow a flow of 700 cubic metres in dry seasons but decrease it to 300 cubic metres in winter.

Al Medeni refused to spell out the amount of water Syria demanded. But he complained that the actual flow was insufficient and both Iraq and Syria suffered from damages because of it.

"Those damages should be shared equally," he said. He did not elaborate.

The 1,460 mile (2,300 kms) Euphrates river



Pam Passio, foreign minister of Finland (right) meets with Palestinians in Arab East Jerusalem. From left to right: Ghassan Al Khatib from Nablus, Ahmad Hanneh Natshe from Hebron, and Zakariya Al Agha from Gaza shaking hands with Passio. (Reuters wirephoto)

Iraq stops anti-Iran campaign

UN chief to meet Gulf foes

KUWAIT, June 29, (Kuna): The Iraqi authorities have instructed its mass media to stop all forms of press campaign against Iran, press reports said here today.

Daily Al Watan, in a dispatch from Baghdad, quoted well-informed Iraqi sources as saying that Iraq's dealing with news concerning Iran has started to take "a new formula that is completely different than previously practiced."

The new trend, which came 23 months after both countries halted their eight years of war, followed their first message by Iraqi President Saddam Hussein to Iranian leadership a few months ago, the paper said.

The daily said the Iraqi mass media resumed reporting normal names and surnames of Iranian officials and leaders.

The UN secretary-general is scheduled to meet with Iranian and Iraqi foreign ministers in

Geneva next Tuesday to resume peace negotiations.

In a friendly gesture, Iraq sent human aid and a cable of condolences to the Iranian authorities for last week's earthquake disaster that killed 50,000 Iranians.

Perez de Cuellar, will arrive in Geneva from London on Sunday evening, a spokesman said.

The secretary-general's meeting with Foreign Minister of Iran Ali Akbar Velayati is scheduled for Monday July 2, and on the following day, De Cuellar will receive Iraqi Foreign Minister Tariq Aziz. The spokesman said that a joint meeting between the ministers has not yet been confirmed.

Also at the beginning of next year, the secretary-general will receive his personal assistant, Jean-Claude Aime, who is currently visiting the occupied Arab territories.

MIDEAST BRIEFS

Preventing wives: Four Palestinians accused Israel on Friday of preventing their wives from entering the West Bank despite a promise that the families of Arab residents would be allowed an indefinite stay. Jamil Barghouti from the West Bank village of Beit Rima, said Israeli officers at the Allenby Bridge turned his wife back as she tried to cross from Jordan on Wednesday.

They held her at the bridge for six hours and then one officer ripped off her entry permit and told her she was not welcome. Barghouti told the East Jerusalem Al Fajr daily.

Military authorities on June 6 said they would reverse long-standing policy and allow non-resident wives of West Bank residents to stay in the area indefinitely. (Reuters)

City officials back down: City officials on Friday backed down in a showdown with 15 homeless families displaced by sky-rocketing rents caused by the mass influx of Soviet Jews. Officials initially had ordered police to evict the families by 10 am Friday from tents they had pitched in a downtown public park. But the deadline passed, and the families remained.

The tent city is one of several that have sprung up throughout the country to protest the severe housing shortage and rent increases of up to 150 per cent brought on by the Soviet immigration. (AP)

Secret meeting: Israeli citizens, risking their government's wrath, met with Palestinians in secret on Thursday to discuss Middle East conflict and obstacles to peace, a Swedish Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said.

The ministry could not confirm reports from Israel and Stockholm that the Palestinian delegation included members of the PLO. Spokesmen at the University of Uppsala's department for peace and conflict research, which organised the meeting as an academic seminar, said they did not know where it was being held. The Foreign Ministry spokeswoman said the location was being kept secret for security reasons. (AP)

Libya denies: Libya on Wednesday denied American news reports that it is building a new chemical weapons plant. Jana, the official Libyan news agency, said reports in the New York Times and Washington Times were "entirely baseless."

"The world community is no longer duped by the lies and disinformation campaigns conducted by the Western media organs," Jana said in a dispatch monitored in Rome.

US administration officials last week said Libya may be building a chemical weapons plant at a remote underground location hundreds of miles south of Tripoli.

They said Libya's purpose was to divert some poison gas production from its plant at Rabta, just south of Tripoli. (AP)

Ruling party retains Najib

ISLAMABAD, June 29, (UPI): Delegates at the first congress in 25 years of the ruling People's Democratic Party of Afghanistan changed the name of the party and re-elected President Najibullah as its leader, official Kabul radio said.

As the final session of the two-day congress took place in the Afghan capital, US-backed rebels pounded the city with rockets, killing five people, wounding 14 and causing damage to property, the radio reported.

The mujahedeen have rocketed Kabul almost daily for the past two months, killing scores of civilians and wounding hundreds, in attacks diplomats say have been timed to coincide with moves by Najibullah to attract more international and domestic support for his pro-Soviet government and end the 12-year-old civil war.

The party congress, the first since the People's Democratic Party was formed in 1965, is seen as part of the political offensive by the 43-year-old former head of Afghanistan's secret police.

Kabul radio said the more than 800 delegates at the gathering unanimously approved changing the name of the grouping to the "Homeland Party" and elected Najibullah as its chairman.

In a concluding speech to the conference, Najibullah repeated his support for elections in the country and again appealed to rebel commanders to join the government.

A journalist who covers the war in Afghanistan for a Western news agency was in critical condition after being attacked with acid, officials said.

Khan, Peshawar correspondent for the English-language newspaper the Democrat, suffered burns over more than half his body and could lose sight in one eye, doctors and newspaper executives said.

Gunmen kill one, wound 15 in Istanbul shooting

ISTANBUL, June 29, (Reuters): Gunmen shot dead one person and wounded 15 today in a crowd of Kurds leaving a courtroom where their leader was on trial, police said.

Officials said the Kurds had been attending the trial of Cemal Sincar, alleged to have shot a Turkish reporter and wounded a photographer from the mass-circulation daily Gazete in November.

The court's chief prosecutor, Sevkî Arat, said the attack on the Kurds could have been linked to a clan dispute. He declined to give further details, citing a lack of evidence.

The gunmen escaped in a car, leaving behind two Soviet-designed Kalashnikov rifles.

"We counted 46 bullets. They raked the place. We are continuing investigations," Arat said.

Gazete, a colourful full-price daily, folded on November 30. Its owners said the shootings of the reporter and photographer had nothing to do with the paper closing down.

Turkey, Iraq and Syria fail to reach agreement on sharing Euphrates water

ANKARA, June 29, (AP): Turkey, Syria and Iraq failed to reach agreement on the use of Euphrates river waters.

Following two days of ministerial level talks, Turkish Public Works Minister Cengiz Altinkaya said Syria and Iraq rejected a new Turkish plan.

Under the plan, Turkey offered to regulate the flow of water according to seasonal needs at an annual level of 15.768 billion cubic metres downstream.

Altinkaya said Turkey was currently allowing an

average flow of 500 cubic metres a second downstream.

"They (Syria and Iraq) only tell us to increase the flow of water," he said. "They refuse to discuss anything else."

Iraqi Agriculture and Irrigation Minister Abdul-Wabab Mahmud Al Sabah and Syrian Irrigation Minister Abdurrahman Al Medeni represented their countries at the meeting.

Al Sabah told reporters that Iraq asked for at least 700 cubic metres of water a second throughout the

year.

Under Turkey's new plan, Turkey said it could allow a flow of 700 cubic metres in dry seasons but decrease it to 300 cubic metres in winter.

Al Medeni refused to spell out the amount of water Syria demanded. But he complained that the actual flow was insufficient and both Iraq and Syria suffered from damages because of it.

"Those damages should be shared equally," he said. He did not elaborate.

The 1,460 mile (2,300 kms) Euphrates river

originates in the mountains of eastern Turkey and flows through Syria and Iraq before joining the Tigris river and the sea at the Gulf. The Tigris river also originates in Turkey and flows through Iraq.

Altinkaya said Iraq also uses waters of the Tigris river, but talks only about the sharing of Euphrates waters.

"It is impossible to make progress in the talks as long as the Euphrates waters remain as the sole reason of dispute," Altinkaya said.

EVENTS

Eid prayers on KTV 1

KUWAIT Television, Programme One, opens at 5 am on Monday morning to broadcast live Eid prayers from Saudi Arabia.

KTV 1 will also cover Eid Al Adha prayers in a number of world capitals and cities. The Eid celebration will also be shown from several cities around the world.

Reprints on Eid will come from Los Angeles, Moscow, Tashkent, Beijing, Dakar, Washington and several other major cities.

Eid Al Adha prayers in Paris, London and New York will also be covered.

Sunday
July 1

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Macaroni: cartoon serial
6.30 The Beachcombers: an automobile accident is the cause for concern in tonight's episode as Relic and Nick try to work out the problem. Starring: Bruno Gerussi, Robert Clothier.

7.00 Nature: A look at wildlife in New Zealand.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Haj and Omra: "Waqfa Arafat" — stopover in Arafat, and the rites of Tawaf Al Wida'a.

9.30 Jake and Mike: "The Hidden Camera." A television reporter films an explosive story. Will it be shown on the network?
10.30 Best-Seller: "Kane and Abel," based on Jeffrey Archer's best-selling novel about the rise of two powerful men and their hatred for each other.

12.30 News in Brief
12.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Monday
July 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Walt Disney: a special report on the opening ceremony of the Walt Disney studios and the Metro-Goldwyn studios.

Also excerpt from some of the best Disney movies.



Kane and Abel, this week's best seller

7.30 Roving Report: roundup of regional and world news.
8.00 News in English.
8.40 Only Have Eyes' Jake believes in Rachel's innocence and tries to help the murder charges dropped.

9.40 The Diamond Award Festival: a variety show. Feature film: "Roots." Based on a novel of the same name, it tells the story of slavery, through the experiences of Kunta Kinte, a slave who was brought to America.
10.30 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite

Tuesday
July 3

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Chic and Dale's rescue: cartoon serial
6.30 The New Mickey Mouse Club

7.00 Feature Film for Children: "Turn of the Tide." The story of two fishing families: their fortunes and misfortunes.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Bordertown: "The

This week on KTV 2



William Shatner stars in Star Trek



Reaper. The town's young challenge a well-known gun fighter who

returns home.
9.05 Perfect Strangers: Larry is on a diet and finds the going tough. Comedy.
9.30 A special variety show for Eid Al Adha

9.45 Just for Laughs: comic excerpts from television serials and films.
10.30 Feature film: "Desperado." Action Adventure.
12.30 News in Brief
12.40 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.

Wednesday
July 4

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 The Karate Kid: cartoon serial

6.30 Alf: "Stop in the Name of Love." Alf is jealous of Lynn's friendship with her friend Danny and tries his best to prevent them seeing each other.
7.00 Walt Disney movie: "The City Fox." The adventures of Rusty the fox who is chased by a dog through the city's streets.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Chart Attack: features the

PRAYERS

Fajr	3.16 am
Zuhr	11.51
Asr	3.25 pm
Maghreb	6.52
Isha	8.24

WHAT'S ON

Kapilku
July 19: Kapilku awards certificates of attendance to those who attended tailoring, bookkeeping, basic accounts and basic computer courses. The ceremony will be held at Al Araliya Restaurant, 8 pm. Philippine Ambassador Maunag Mohammad Tamano will be the chief guest. Buffet dinner, KD 3 per person. Proceeds will go towards the school fund.

Those who attended self-improvement classes are asked to contact Sarah Macarimbang. Tel: 4839009, 4839889, 4843447.

Natya Bharati
Natya Bharati calls amateur dramatists to audition for their fourth Hindi production entitled "Badi Buaji" (The Big Aunt), a full-length comedy which will be performed in mid-October. Required a female lead, young smart lady, past stage experience would be an asset, two supporting actresses, character actors, a middle-aged man with a good personality and two young men in their early 30s. Genuinely interested people who plan to stay in Kuwait during summer holidays can contact 4880965 or 5623810 after 1.30 pm or 3721545 after 8.30 am for further details.

THURSDAY
Fourth Day of Eid

10.15 am: English feature film for children
6.30 pm: The World of Magic
8.35 Special programme on Eid Al Adha

9.45 Al Arhaab: Arabic feature film, starring Nadia Al Jundi, Farouk Fishawi, Salah Qabeel

FRIDAY

10.30 am: Al Rahla: programme for children
3.30 pm: Hindi feature film
9.45 Raqeeb La Yanam: Arabic serial, featuring Ahmad Mazhar, Wasmiya Al Aili, Nawal Abul Futouh.

latest songs from popular bands around the world.
9.30 Paradise! "Devil's Escort." Ethan is assigned to transport a criminal on trial.
10.30 Feature film: A fight for Jenny. Drama.
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Thursday
July 5

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Cartoons
6.30 Mr Wizard's World: an educational programme for young viewers.

7.00 Star Trek: adventures in outer space promise great entertainment.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Adventurer: Jack Foster is on the run and moves to Australia; and the English police are on his track.

9.30 Paul Daniels Magic Show



The Disney Studios opening ceremony will be shown



Perfect Strangers are on to the secret of dieting, or are they? Comedy at 9 pm Sunday

The Diamond Award Festival

10.30 Bill Cosby Show: Cliff advises his family not to eat heavy food before going to bed but does not practice it himself. Comedy. Starring: Bill Cosby, Phylcia Rashad.
10.30 Thursday Night Movie: Breaking Point
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Friday
July 6

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Popeye and Son: cartoons
6.30 Family feature film: the adventures of a young boy and his divorced mother.

8.00 News in English
8.40 Breaking Away: a look at what's on in Kuwait.

8.50 Mr T: new series. After a robbery at a supermarket, the police arrest 10 suspects. But who are the real culprits?

9.15 Documentary: from Georgia to Mexico examines the problems of ownership of land.
10.00 Doctor Doctor: a new comedy featuring mishaps in a clinic.

10.30 Men
11.30 News in Brief
11.35 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown.



"If I Only Have Eyes" is the title of this week's episode of Jake and the Fatman.

TELEVISION PROGRAMME

KTV 1

9.00 Holy Quran
9.15 Nabia Wa Saleh: cartoon serial
9.40 Ifah Ya Simsim
10.10 Good Morning
10.30 Al Khittah: Arabic serial; starring: Omar Al Haraini, Samiya Al Aili, Hussein Al Sharbini, Nabeel Al Dassouqi.

11.15 News Summary
12.00 Hamoun Wa Tamouh: Arabic serial, part 6; featuring Samir Fahad, Ahmad Al Qawasimi, Antonette Najeeb.

1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.30 Sanavar: cartoon serial
2.30 Saif-Haar: Gulf serial; featuring Saleh Bin Za'al Al Faris, Saud Al Darmiki, Amina Abdul Rasool.

3.35 Ala Zimmah Al Tahqiq: Arabic play; featuring Raghdia, Ahmad Luksoor, Aziza Rashed.
5.30 Adventures: cartoon serial
6.30 Noor Al Islam: religious programme
7.30 Variety Show
8.00 Weekly Discussion
9.00 News in Arabic
9.45 Uyoum Al Akhireen: Arabic serial; featuring Bost, Abu Bakr Ezzat, Hamdi Ahmad, Ahmad Abdul Aziz.

11.00 Kunooz La Tade'a: "Ashaab Ala Tarcoq." Starring: Rubab, Mohammad Al Sabe'a, Ashraf Abdul Ghafoor.
1.00 News Summary
1.05 World News via Satellite
1.20 Holy Quran/Closedown

KTV 2

6.00 Holy Quran
6.10 Brave Star: cartoon serial
6.30 Not Another Science Show: "V Rooms." A look at how oil is formed underground; also a look at how carburetors and spark plugs work in cars.
7.00 Survival: a look at wildlife

and birds of New Zealand.
7.30 Out of This World: "Stevie." Evie wants to please a friend and transforms herself to dance with her girlfriend.
8.00 News in English
8.40 Haj and Omra: travel to Muzdalifah and other Haj rites.
9.10 The Fatal Attraction of Hitler: this film examines the phenomenon of Hitler and how he came to power.
10.30 Saturday Movie: The Trial of Jean Harris. A doctor's ex-wife, Jean, is charged with murdering her former husband. In court, she claims it was an accidental killing.
12.00 News in Brief
12.10 Magazine D'Actualite/Closedown

Sport TV Ch. 6/45

5.00 Sport Report
5.50 World Cup Soccer: Argentina vs Yugoslavia: live from Italy
8.30 Sport Analysis
9.50 World Cup Soccer: Italy vs Ireland: live from Italy

Please note that Kuwait Television programmes and timings are liable to change without notice.

Eid highlights

KTV 1

SUNDAY
10.30 Kana Ma Kana: children's serial
12.00 noon: Haj: live from Saudi Arabia, showing the movement of pilgrims towards Arafat.

2.30 Saif-Haar: Gulf serial; featuring Saleh Bin Za'al Al Faris, Saud Al Darmiki, Amina Abdul Rasool.

4.00 Kunooz La Tade'a: "Al-Lisaan." Starring: Abdullah Ghaith, Rubab, Mohammad Al Subei.

6.00 Haj: live from Saudi Arabia, covering the journey of pilgrims from Arafat to Muzdalifah.

9.45 Uyoum Al Akhireen: Arabic serial; featuring Bost, Abu Bakr Ezzat, Hamdi Ahmad, Ahmad Abdul Aziz.

11.00 Makhlook Ismahu Al Mara'a: "Al Sariqah." Starring: Farouk Fishawi, Shahira, Amina Rizk, Hasan Hussein.

MONDAY
First Day of Eid

5.00 am: Holy Quran
5.30 Eid Prayer: live transmission

7.30 Cartoons
8.00 Mischievous Claudia: English feature

9.15 Mama Anisa and Summer: special episode for Eid

10.00 Wara'ahum, Wara'ahum: Arabic play for children, featuring Abdul Rahman Al Aqel, Mohammad Al Ajami.

12.20 pm: Bataqah Tahniya: army officers talk about Kuwaiti issues.

2.00 Eid Mubarakum: local variety entertainment
2.35 Imara: Arabic film, starring Rassim

6.00 Arabic play for children: Kana Ma Kana
8.35 Special variety show for Eid

11.00 Al Maulud: Arabic feature film, starring Adel Imam Yusra, Imaan, Amina rizk

TUESDAY
Second Day of Eid

9.45 am: Luna Park: programme for children
10.00 Special programme for children

11.15 The Lion: English feature film
2.00 pm: Al Tanateef: featuring Ghanim Slaith, Huda Hussein

4.15 War'aa Kullu Majnoon: Arabic comedy, starring Ahmad Badar, Mimi Jamal
8.35 Special programme on Eid Al Adha
10.00 Local Arabic play:



Hayat Al Fahad

Numazij Nisa'a, featuring Hayat Al Fahad, Khalil Ismael, Basma Hamada.

11.00 Local variety show
WEDNESDAY
Third Day of Eid

10.15 am: Faheem Wa Baheem: a play for children, starring Khalid Obaid, Abdul Mohsin Khalfan, Rola Al Fara, Noor Al Huda.

4.00 pm: English feature film, starring Ed Bishop.
8.35 Special programme on Eid Al Adha

10.00 Al Nadil Al Zareef: Arabic play, starring: Rasem Al Jumaili, Mohammad Hussein Abdul Raheem, Awatif Ibrahim

11.30 Soora Ijimaiah: "Al

Mubtasim." Starring: Zuhair Abdul Karim, Ali Rawas, Faris Al Helu.

THURSDAY
Fourth Day of Eid

10.15 am: English feature film for children
6.30 pm: The World of Magic
8.35 Special programme on Eid Al Adha

9.45 Al Arhaab: Arabic feature film, starring Nadia Al Jundi, Farouk Fishawi, Salah Qabeel

FRIDAY
10.30 am: Al Rahla: programme for children
3.30 pm: Hindi feature film
9.45 Raqeeb La Yanam: Arabic serial, featuring Ahmad Mazhar, Wasmiya Al Aili, Nawal Abul Futouh.

الاحتفال

BUSINESS & FINANCE

Call for upgrading WB industry

OCCUPIED JERUSALEM, June 29. (Reuters) Arab academics in the Israeli-occupied territories have called for diversifying Palestinian industry and asked Arab countries to open their markets to West Bank goods to reduce residents' dependence on Israel.

At a conference in East Jerusalem, some 50 academics and businessmen discussed a two-year study on West Bank industry by economists from A-Najah University in the Arab West Bank city of Nablus.

The academics said that Arab industry,

mainly food products, footwear and plastics, represented just eight per cent of all West Bank economic output.

They said Israeli military authorities had refused to grant licenses for new factories and called for launching small-scale industrial enterprises to circumvent such restrictions.

The academics also asked Arab countries to drop restrictions on manufactured goods from the West Bank, home to one million Palestinians.

"In light of the limited West Bank

market, an effort should be made to open Arab markets for Palestinian industrial products," they said in a statement carrying 13 recommendations for developing Palestinian industry.

Jordan prohibits imports of West Bank products unless they are made with raw materials from Jordan.

Palestinians waging a 30-month-old revolt against Israeli occupation have largely boycotted products made in the Jewish state in a bid to promote self-sufficiency.

"The intifada (uprising) had had positive impact on promoting Palestinian industrial products," said Samir Abdallah, an economics lecturer at A-Najah, which like other universities in the occupied areas has been closed during the uprising.

West Bank economists estimated that the boycott of Israeli products and decreased buying power in the occupied territories reduced imports from Israel by nearly \$300 million in 1988 compared to the previous year.

Modest Opec cutback drives prices down

Norwegian pay talks deadlocked

LONDON, June 29. (Reuters) Opec cut back only modestly in June on the excess output which has driven world oil prices down by a third this year, industry sources said today.

A monthly Reuters survey of official, industry and shipping sources estimated that output by the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries declined by a modest 270,000 barrels per day (bpd) to 23.11 million in June.

Even so, quota violations mean that output still exceeds a declared target of around 22.1 million bpd.

It also remains above the goal of 22.5 million or so which several ministers privately called "realistic" when a stopgap output pact to try to mop up a glut in the market and rescue sliding prices was agreed in Geneva on May 3.

Bush defends back off step

Budget deficit \$150b

WASHINGTON, June 29. (Reuters) President George Bush said today that his decision to back off his pledge for no new taxes was spurred by the enormity of the federal deficit and was a necessary step to get stalled budget talks moving.

"I take a look at a new situation. I see an enormous deficit, I see a savings and loan problem out there that has to be resolved. And like Abraham Lincoln says, 'I'll think anew,' Bush said. 'I knew I'd catch some flak on this decision.'

Bush declined to spell out details of the negotiations on an overall deficit reduction package.

"We agreed with Democratic leaders that we would not discuss the details of what is going on in these negotiations," he said.

Republican lawmakers have joined in criticism of the president for any readiness to raise taxes as part of the effort to cut the deficit.

Many Republicans have stated strong opposition to the Bush decision.

"You've seen the arrows coming my way and that's fine," he said. "I expected it."

The remarks were Bush's first public remarks on his decision to renege on his "no new taxes" pledge. He said he had not changed his views against taxes but that he wanted to keep the economic expansion going past its record 90th month and save jobs.

"We've got a major problem facing this country, and I have the responsibility, leading the executive branch, to get things moving to get a solution. The budget deficit is bigger, far bigger. I thought I could do a better job getting spending down...."

the deficit for the 1991 budget is currently estimated at more than \$150 billion, not even taking into account the multi-billion dollar bailout of the collapsed savings and loan industry.

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No big deal likely at G-7

WASHINGTON, June 29. (AP) Neither drama nor major decisions are likely to result when leaders of the seven main industrialised countries meet for their annual economic summit July 9-11 in Houston.

Economists generally don't expect leaders of the way international politics, strategy and military matters do, says W. Allen Wallis, a former under-secretary of state for economic affairs who's attended six such summits.

Thus, he expects that economic matters will be discussed only at the formal sessions of the summit, with the rest of the time devoted to more lively matters in more relaxed, private settings.

They'll probably spend their private sessions discussing, and trying to translate, the Soviet Communist Party conference that is to convene 10 days before they do. The congress could be crucial to the future of Mikhail Gorbachev and his programmes.

They'll also be talking about progress toward reunification in Germany, and about the risk of deunification in Canada, where the French-Canadians of Quebec are threatening secession.

The Houston conference will be the 16th economic summit meeting, and like those that went before, it is not likely to produce drama or major decisions. Oil past performance, chances are it will be dull, especially when sticking to business.

Summit staff veterans agree that the annual meetings are useful, for the contacts, conversation and agenda-setting. But they seldom decide anything, and the final communiqués usually are worded to paper over the most nettlesome issues.

The summits began in 1975 when the leaders of France and West Germany, who had conferred while serving as finance ministers, invited the heads of other Western industrial democracies and Japan to join for an economic conference at the top.

Those meetings were supposed to be informal, but that doesn't work with heads of governments. They have their own protocol and their own lingo. Each of the seven delegations — eight counting the European Economic Community, is entitled to 15 members, all expenses paid by the host country.

The countries at the summit are the United States, Britain, France, West Germany, Italy, Canada and Japan.

Each government head has a personal representative for the summit, a role Wallis filled six times for president Ronald Reagan. In the economic summit, the representatives are called Sherpas because, like Himalayan mountain guides, they plan and preview the route to the summit. Those top summit aides hold four formal mini-summits of their own in advance of the main event.

At a briefing at the American Enterprise Institute for Public Policy Research, a panel of economists who have been involved in prior summits looked toward the one just ahead.

Japan's surplus account plunges

TOKYO, June 29. (Reuters) Japan's surplus in the trading of goods and services with the rest of the world plunged more than 50 per cent in May, but economists here doubt it has much further to fall.

Japan's Finance Ministry reported on Friday that the unadjusted current account surplus shrank to 1.46 billion dollars in May from 3.44 billion a year earlier. Import growth was the main factor, economists said.

The current account is the broadest measure of trade in goods and services. The surplus has narrowed almost without exception for more than a year.

Cautious before monetary merger

German mark, shares ease

FRANKFURT, June 29. (Reuters) The West German mark and Frankfurt shares eased on Friday in the last few trading hours before Sunday's historic merger of the two German economies.

Some dealers linked the share price fall to lingering worries about costs of monetary union, which begins on July 1.

On that day, Bonn's mark and market-oriented policies will be introduced into an East German economy emerging from 40 years of

communist central planning.

Some economists and traders predict another long-term boom for the mark and West German securities, similar to the one which followed the breach of the Berlin Wall last Nov 9.

But caution could be the watchword in the initial weeks of a monetary experiment unique in world economic history.



Singing in the rain

Some hundred East Berliners queue patiently in the pouring rain in front of a bank on Alexanderplatz in East Berlin to get their banking affairs arranged before the currency union gets into force on July 1. (Reuters wirephoto)

Dollar closes higher in Europe

London equities make gains

LONDON, June 29. (Agencies) The US dollar closed mostly higher against all the major European currencies today in sluggish trading on the foreign exchange markets, analysts said.

The dollar and the Deutsche mark held their ground ahead of Sunday's German monetary union as dealers said nobody wished to be long on the two currencies over the weekend.

"We are simply waiting to see what the mood is going to be next week when we effectively will have monetary union," Klaus Elsner of Deutsche Bank said.

In Frankfurt, the dollar closed lower at 1.651 Deutsche marks against 1.650 Thursday.

The dollar was up in Zurich at 1.4129 Swiss francs compared to 1.4115.

In London the pound gained on remarks by European Commissioner Leon Brittan that Britain will adopt full membership of the European Monetary System within a short

period.

Rumours circulated today that the British government would announce this weekend its long-awaited entry into the exchange rate mechanism, bringing overseas money into London.

The pound closed at \$1.7450 against \$1.7400 at yesterday's close.

A British currency trader said the dollar dropped with President Bush's announcement of the likelihood of a deal with Congress over the budget deficit and the prospect of lower interest rates.

The dollar closed slightly higher in Paris, Brussels and Milan, at 5.61 francs against 5.6005, at 34.25 Belgian francs against 34.24, and at 1.256 lire against 1.255.75 at close on Wednesday.

Earlier in Tokyo, the dollar dropped sharply. The dollar closed at 152.85 yen, down 1.57 yen from Thursday's close of 154.42 yen, the Bank of Japan said.

Equities made early gains on the

London international stock exchange today, but eased lower when technical considerations related to the June FTSE futures contract dried up and Wall Street's opening proved indecisive.

The Financial Times stock exchange 100-share index reached 2,370.9 points at 4 pm, up 15.2 points. The Financial Times 30 index stood at 1,898.1 points, up 10.3 points.

The US stock market edged upward this morning, bidding to close out the first half of 1990 on a positive note.

The Dow Jones average of 30 industrials rose 2.48 to 2,881.19 at 10.30 am EDT (1430 GMT) in the first hour of trading.

At the start of foreign exchange trading in Switzerland today, one Kuwaiti dinar was trading at 4.8352 Swiss francs, firming up slightly against the closing rate of 4.8240 yesterday evening, the Swiss-Kuwait Bank reported.

The mark was fixed on Friday at 1.6715 to the dollar, after 1.6675 on Thursday, partly as funds flowed into the yen. The Dax index of major German stocks fell 0.8 per cent to 1,879.90.

Alex Blinkhorn, a trader at Bank of Tokyo in Frankfurt, told Reuters, "The really good news will only come later."

In the short term, economists see problems linked to union, especially the ability of major East German firms to pay hard currency salaries before they have geared up their products to the needs of sophisticated Western consumers.

There is no doubt that many firms face bankruptcy and the fate of thousands of workers depends on how quickly Western companies move in to provide alternative employment.

The markets also worry about how Bonn will finance the huge transfer of resources needed to help East Germany cope with the economic transition, especially as Finance Minister Theo Waigel has pledged to do this without raising taxes.

The market's caution was echoed by Geoffrey Dennis, the chief international economist at UK broker James Capel.

Dennis saw problems for the mark, partly because he saw little room for lower interest rates in the United States, a factor which would keep the dollar, its main rival stable.

He also believed the West German currency would remain susceptible to any news of unrest in the Soviet Union. More importantly, he thought West German officials were underplaying the risks that union involved.

"I think that both the Bundesbank and the government are being complacent about the inflationary and financing problems linked to union," he said.

But some other commentators showed more confidence in the government's assertion that unit costs are manageable.

"Germany is one of the richest countries in the world. If Germany can't afford this, then who can?" asked Klaus Heintzen, a share dealer at Frankfurt's Bankhaus Behnmann.

Thomas Miskell, German equities trader at Societe Generale Strauss and Turnbull in London, said fears West German interest rates had to rise to finance union were overstated.

"This talk always comes from outside Germany, from people who don't understand the system or how solidly grounded it is," Miskell said.

Chris Zuernmann, treasurer at Sal Oppenheim in Frankfurt, firmly believed the mark was in for a rally which could come as quickly as August.

In the next few weeks he saw the mark rising to 1.60 to the dollar, especially because a lower dollar would suit authorities in the United States and Europe alike.

A lower dollar would be a good way of supporting the US economy by promoting exports and a firmer mark would help hold down West German inflation when the economy is booming.

Official Bonn forecasts see the West German economy continuing to expand at a strong four per cent for the rest of this year.

Tokyo shares

Nikkei stock average: 32312.75 (+740.90)			
Volume: 600 mil shs			
Yen exchange rate: 154.35			
Name of stock	Ch	Ch	
Advantest Corp	6290 +220	Mitsubishi Estate	1550 +50
Aijimoto	2040 -20	Mitsubishi HI	1020 +20
Alps Electric	2450 -30	Mitsui RE	1870 +60
Amada	1760 +80	Mizuno Corp	1750 0
Asahi Chem Ind	894 -1	Mochida Ph	3800 +90
Asahi Glass	1840 +80	Mori Seiki Co.	4270 +190
C. Itoh Co.	825 +20	NBC Corp	2820 +120
Canon Inc.	1880 +80	Nikon Corp	1750 +70
Casio Comp	1600 +70	Nippon Shin Co	1130 +40
Dai Nippon Printing	1900 +50	Nippon Steel Corp	571 +6
Daichi Seiyaku	2510 +70	Nippondenso	2290 +30
Dainippon Pha.	3190 +50	Nitsuko Corp	1540 -60
Daiichi Corp	1900 -100	Nomura Sec	2290 +60
Eisai	1870 +50	Okuma Mach	1800 +50
Fanuc Ltd.	7360 +310	Onward K Co.	2030 0
Fuji Photo	4620 +230	Orix Corp	4630 +80
Fujitsu Ltd.	1440 +50	Pioneer Elec Co	6320 +170
Hitachi Credit	1620 0	Renown Look Inc	2130 +80
Hitachi Koki	2340 +80	Sanyo Elec Co.	924 +5
Hitachi Ltd.	1550 +50	Secom Co., Ltd.	6800 +250
Hitachi Metal	1630 +10	Shin-Etsu Chem	1700 -10
Honda Motor	1780 0	Shindengen Elec	1350 0
Ito Yokado Co	3950 -10	Sony Corp	8870 +360
Kajima Corp	1920 +20	Sunomoto Elec Ind.	1560 +60
Kawasaki HI	880 +13	Suzumoto Metal	569 +14
Kobe Cast Iron	1610 +40	Takeda Chemical	1730 +50
Kokusai Elec.	5240 +50	TDK Corp	7320 +270
Komatsu Ltd.	1130 +30	Tokio Marine & Fire	1390 +20
Kyocera Corp	8630 +300	Tokyo Elec Power	4260 +30
Marui	3050 +30	Tokyo Electron Ltd	4670 +170
Matsumita Ind	3940 210	Toppan Printing	1780 +40
Matsumita Elec	2150 +90	Toray Ind Inc.	780 0
Mazda MC	934 -1	Toshiba Corp	1110 +40
Mitsubishi Corp	1490 +60	Toyota Motor	2370 +90
		Yaskawa Elec	1070 +30

Provided by Nomura Investment Banking (Midwest), Bahrain

Swiss 'sociology's Rambo' Ziegler charges nation of money-laundering

ZURICH, June 29. (Reuters) The scourge of the Swiss establishment is at it again and a lot of his fellow-countrymen don't like it.

Dubbed "sociology's Rambo" by the media, 54-year-old Jean Ziegler has devoted much of his adult life to becoming his country's fiercest critic.

His latest book, "Switzerland Washes Whiter," is a colourful and scathing attack on money-laundering, which he claims supports Swiss society.

"Switzerland is our planet's principal junction for money laundering, the recycling of the profits of death," Ziegler says on the first page.

Already a best-seller at home and due to appear soon in 14 languages abroad, the book has set off six lawsuits and a

rush of death threats.

It is not the first time Ziegler has ranked the Swiss establishment. In 1975 he published "La Suisse au dessus de tout Soupçon" (Switzerland above all suspicion) condemning exploitation of the Third World by the rich.

In taking up the money-laundering theme he seems to have touched an even rawer nerve.

A small, untidy man with deep-set, twinkling eyes and seemingly limitless verbal energy, Ziegler bears no physical resemblance to the gun-toting film hero Rambo but his words have almost the explosiveness of an automatic weapon.

Most of his countrymen accuse him of wild exaggeration. He retorts that Switzerland needs a strong dose of

self-evaluation.

"For generations (Switzerland) was a symbol of hygiene, health and cleanliness. Today it is a source of infection. I don't know of any other social group more ignorant of itself, more stiff, more secret," he says.

Many Swiss are infuriated by Ziegler's aggressive criticism. In an editorial, the tabloid "Blick" called him a "bird which fouls its own nest."

The daily "Tages Anzeiger" said more sympathetically: "The upstanding Swiss cannot take this mixture of wicked political cabaret, radical critique of bourgeois capitalism, and verbal guerrilla warfare."

Ziegler could not be happier about the criticism. He told a recent news conference: "Switzerland has no culture of

conflict. The book is intended to spark debate."

The Swiss Bankers' Association (SBA) said the book contained many assertions but no proof. "Swiss banking secrecy is by no means absolute. It does not protect criminals," it said in a statement.

A number of people are angry enough with Ziegler to go to court about it.

One of them is Hans Kopp, husband of former Justice Minister Elisabeth Kopp, who stepped down after admitting she told her husband about a money-laundering investigation into a company of which he was vice-chairman.

Ziegler devoted a whole chapter to the couple. He seems less worried about legal battles than death threats. He and his family have to live under police guard,

US August futures for light, gasoline-rich crude oil traded around 17 dollars per barrel on Friday. They began the year up near \$24.

"From whatever angle you look at it Opec still has not got down to the levels it agreed on," said Peter Gignoux, a director in London with trading house Shearson Lehman Hutton.

A consensus among sources questioned by Reuters was that Saudi Arabia, the biggest exporter, is honouring its assigned quota which is set at 5.38 million bpd including a neutral zone shared with Kuwait.

Some sources saw a slight gain but added that the Saudis still seemed to be resisting the temptation to do what they did during a ruinous 1986 glut and turn up the taps on their huge production to teach others in Opec a lesson.

Two other heavyweights, Iran and Iraq, are also around quota, so that most of the excess seems to be coming from United Arab Emirates.

Tanker loadings of Iranian crude fluctuate widely. But a number of sources said it was beginning to look as if actual production has been somewhat erratic, oscillating either side of a median line perhaps close to 3.1 million bpd.

But estimates for Iranian output in June were heard as low as 2.95 million.

Rumours of fighting in the Middle East and of a meeting of Opec oil ministers to curb the overproduction combined with a firmer overseas market to drive US oil prices up on Thursday.

In trading on the New York Mercantile Exchange, the standard-setting West Texas Intermediate crude for August delivery climbed 47 cents on the day to \$17.15 a barrel, reversing Wednesday's 46 cent loss.

Sun Co., of Radnor, Pennsylvania, along with Du Pont, Houston-based Conoco subsidiary and Marathon Oil Co., the Findlay, Ohio, unit of USX Corp., all raised the posted price they will pay for crude at the wellhead by 50 cents a barrel to \$16 a barrel for WTI. They had lowered the price 75 cents on Wednesday.

Earlier on the European cash market, Britain's widely traded North Sea Brent crude for prompt delivery jumped 60 cents to \$16.20 a barrel.

WTI opened strong on the Merc based on higher European prices for Brent crude, said Randall Rothenberg of Dean Witter Reynolds' International energy futures group in New York.

"Then we heard rumour on rumour, first that Israel had invaded Libya, then that there would be a meeting of the Opec on July 4," the analyst said.

Pay talks between Norwegian oil workers and employees were deadlocked today, threatening to spark a strike that would halt North Sea oil and gas output from the weekend.

Shell said on Wednesday it wanted to reshuffle its stakes in Norway's oil and gas fields and offered to swap licences with other firms.

Wiring up Africa

CAIRO, June 29. (Reuters) Electricity ministers from eight countries in the Nile basin met in Cairo yesterday to study linking their electricity grids and creating a unified network for Africa.

The conference today comes to cement the pioneering project to connect the electricity grids of (Zaire's) Inga Dam and (Egypt's) Aswan Dam and to connect the grids of all the Nile River basin countries. Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak said in a statement read to the conference.

Minister of Electricity Maher Abaza, was quoted by Al-Akhbar newspaper as saying the ministers would study creating a unified power grid for Africa that would be connected to Europe.

He said the African Development Bank agreed on Wednesday to lend Egypt and Zaire \$5 million for a study on how to link their grids.

Burundi, the Central African Republic, Ethiopia, Rwanda, Sudan and Uganda are also participating in the conference.

Bush to forgive Latam debt: plan hailed as long overdue

WASHINGTON, June 29, (AP): President George Bush's proposal to forgive billions of dollars in debt owed by Latin American countries is being hailed as a long-overdue initiative that will help struggling democracies and boost US standing in the world.

The President laid out a package of proposals Wednesday to forgive part of the \$12 billion owed to the US government by Latin American and Caribbean countries. Bush said some of the debt could be swapped

to buy environmentally endangered land. In addition, he called for work to begin on a "hemisphere-wide free trade zone" and said the United States would work with other developed countries to channel up to \$300 million annually to Latin America to spur foreign investment.

The proposals represented an about-face for the administration. It had been resisting congressional calls for debt forgiveness on the ground it could open the floodgates for domestic demands from groups ranging from

farmers to people with old student loans. The administration predicted that the Latin American debt concessions would have little trouble winning congressional approval. The initial reaction both at home and abroad was favourable.

Brazilian President Fernando Collor de Mello told Bush in a phone call that his proposal was "comprehensive, bold and innovative," a Brazilian spokesman said. Honduran President Rafael Callejas ter-

med Bush's proposals "encouraging news" while a spokesman said Mexican President Carlos Salinas de Gortari viewed Bush's speech as a "very important redefinition of the US position regarding economic development in Latin America."

John Reed, head of Citicorp, a large US bank with about \$8 billion in loans in Latin America, said he welcomed the initiative as a way to bring economic growth and prosperity back to Latin America.

"The President acknowledged that in this changed world the United States cannot forget Latin America," said Reed.

He said the proposal would meet some objections by commercial banks to the administration's Third World debt plan outlined last year by Treasury Secretary Nicholas Brady.

Brady's plan did not address debt owed to the United States and other governments, but rather offered incentives for commercial

banks to write off a portion of their \$18 trillion in Third World debt. Commercial banks had argued that they were being forced to shoulder the entire burden.

Brady told reporters that the new initiative for Latin America could set a precedent for countries in other parts of the world, particularly Poland. That nation has been pressing Western countries to forgive part of its \$19 billion foreign debt, most of it owed to governments, to bolster Poland's struggling economic reforms.

US, Japan work out trade details

Raise America's tax income, Tokyo's public spending

TOKYO, June 29, (AP): American and Japanese trade negotiators claimed a historic success yesterday after agreeing on promises to raise US tax revenues and Japanese public spending to help slash Tokyo's surplus in US trade.

Officials on both sides said the agreement would help close the trade gap, ease trade friction and improve the quality of life in both countries. "I welcome and endorse this joint report," US President George Bush said in Washington as the talks ended at the Foreign Ministry in Tokyo.

Prime Minister Toshiki Kaifu said that carrying out the reforms in the accord would be painful. But he said he was confident they would improve the lives of Japanese people and promote harmony with the world economy.

Kaifu praised Bush's willingness to consider tax revenue increases at the risk of a strong political backlash. Bush commended Kaifu for "his strong and courageous political leadership."

Both sides have stressed that the talks were a "two-way street." The difficult negotiations had raised concern that this round in the



Boone Pickens and his wife Bea are surrounded by media people as they enter Koito Manufacturing Co. Ltd's annual shareholders meeting in Tokyo June 28. (Reuters wirephoto)



Pickens shown entering the building for the shareholders meeting June 28. (Reuters wirephoto)

'Japan is against foreigners'

Pickens storms out of Koito shareholders meeting

TOKYO, June 29, (UPI): Texas oilman T. Boone Pickens stormed out of a Japanese shareholders meeting Thursday when it became evident he would be denied access to the company's board of directors despite being the major stockholder.

"They've got a closed system here and they're against foreigners," Pickens said in an emotional news conference after he left the annual meeting of Japan's largest auto-parts maker, Koito Manufacturing Co. Pickens owns 26 per cent of Koito stock, worth about \$950 million, but the company has refused to give him a seat on the board. Pickens says

the case reveals the closed nature of Japanese business. Pickens' 14-month battle for access to Koito's management reached its most acrimonious point as both sides traded angry barbs during the five-hour shareholders meeting.

Pickens said he wants the same access to investment opportunities in Japan that the Japanese have in America. Koito president Takao Matsuura said he will not put Pickens on the board because Pickens is a corporate raider who is making a hostile bid for power and will only stop when he is paid off.

so-called structural impediments initiative, originally scheduled to end Tuesday, might have to be extended into next week.

After four days of intensive talks, however, haggard but happy trade officials emerged with a final report that included Bush's decision this week to raise tax revenues to help tackle the federal budget deficit.

The report also carried a pledge by Japan to spend 430 trillion yen (\$2.77 trillion US) over the next 10 years on public works projects to stimulate demand for imports and help offset this nation's huge reservoir of savings.

The decision on public works represented a major compromise. US officials had sought a 10-year, 500-trillion-yen (\$3.22-trillion) package. But Japanese officials resisted increasing their original offer of 415 trillion yen (\$2.68 trillion) because of fears of inflation.

Japan promised to:

- Reform its distribution system to allow a freer flow of imported goods to businesses and consumers.
- Ease restrictions on opening large stores, which tend to have a greater variety of goods, including imported ones.
- Strengthen its anti-monopoly law and fair trade commission to ensure prosecution of cartels, bid-rigging and other illegal business behaviour.

- Simplify and speed up customs procedures for imports.
- Shorten the time it takes to obtain a Japanese patent.

- Take action, including tax-code revisions, to ease Japan's exorbitant land prices that make it difficult for foreign companies to set up shop.
- Take steps to ensure that company groupings, known as "keiretsu," do not hinder competition.

- Spend about \$3 trillion over the next decade on public facilities to absorb surplus capital and increase imports.
- The US promises to eliminate the federal deficit.

- Promote private savings through legislation.
- Improve its educational system and training of workers.

- Take steps to improve the global competitiveness of US companies, including relaxing some restrictions on co-operation between industries.
- Increase support for research and development.

- Further promote use of the metric system.
- Promote exports through a trade promotion co-ordination committee under the secretary of commerce.

- Review restrictions on sensitive technology bound for communist countries.

EEC cautious over US-Japan deal

BRUSSELS, June 30, (Reuters): European Economic Community officials gave a cautious welcome today to the package of measures Japan and the United States have agreed to narrow their trade imbalance.

One said the EEC had not yet studied the details of the package agreed on Thursday, and could not respond formally, but that as far as was known, it was a welcome step in line with the community's objective of freeing trade.

"We welcome all efforts that contribute to better trade," he told journalists.

He added that the community hoped any measures taken to open up markets as a result of the deal would apply to all countries, not just the two in question.

The EEC is itself keen to trim its massive trade imbalance with Japan, and recently held its first high-level meeting in three years with Tokyo to discuss how to go about it.



Williams gets out of his car for the final round of talks at the Japanese Foreign Ministry June 28. (Reuters wirephoto)

Britain not to appeal order

Aid in Rover sale

LONDON, June 30, (UPI): The British government yesterday decided not to appeal against a European Commission directive ordering British Aerospace to repay £44.4 million (\$77 million) in subsidies it received to help it buy the Rover Car Company in 1988.

The Wednesday order by the commission, which ruled that the "sweeteners" contravened community competition rules, sparked a fierce debate in parliament, where Labour Party leader Neil Kinnock asked Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher of her personal knowledge of the deal.

She said she had answered the question last November, but the reply inspired volatile protests from the opposition.

Trade and Industry Secretary Nicholas Ridley announced the government would not appeal against the decision, but maintained that the concessions to BAE were necessary for the 1988 sale of Rover to proceed.

Ridley also questioned the

amount, saying he thought the figure to be repaid was £11 million too high.

"This is a sorry and shameful tale of incompetence and deception, now followed by humiliation and public rebuke in front of the whole of Europe," said Gordon Brown, Labour's spokesman for trade and industry.

BAE has not confirmed whether it will repay the £44.4 million subsidies, but has said it will not break the law.

It is one of Britain's largest companies and car market analysts said repaying the money should not cause any hardship to either BAE or Rover.

The ruling Conservative government must yet confront the findings of two parliamentary committees investigating whether the government covered up details of the sale and improperly helped BAE with taxpayers' money.

The EEC inquiry began six months ago, after a senior government financial official, John Bourn, released a memorandum exposing the

BA, KLM, Sabena link-up objected

BRUSSELS, Belgium, June 29, (AP): The EEC commission Wednesday objected to the link-up of British Airways, Belgium's Sabena and KLM Royal Dutch Airlines and gave them two months to meet European Economic Community competition rules.

EEC competition commissioner Sir Leon Brittan said although he "warmly welcomed" an air hub at Brussels' Zaventem airport, "some competition questions" were raised by the deal.

British Airways and KLM each have bought a 20 per cent stake in a new Sabena unit, called Sabena World Airways.

This must help the Belgian carrier face competition in a deregulated market after 1992 using fresh capital from its new partners.

Also, the link-up offers British Airways and KLM better access to the Brussels airport.

Sir Leon said he had sent a "statement of objections" to the three airlines. They have two months to reply, he said.

He said he and the three airlines "will seek an agreement on modifications or abandonment of the arrangement."

Sir Leon was not specific but indicated his objections touched on the sharing of aircraft slots at the Brussels airport, the division of air routes among the three carriers and the ownership structure of Sabena World Airways.

British Airways and KLM bought into Sabena after the 53-per cent government-owned Belgian carrier fruitlessly pursued co-operative deals with other airlines, notably Scandinavian Airlines system and Swissair.

Industry sources say Sabena was keen on KLM's partnership to balance that of British Airways.

The British Airways-KLM-Sabena deal is one of several co-operative ventures, either under study or already completed, among EEC and other air carriers in bids to consolidate market shares under pressure of the EEC's 1992 single market programme.

Air France wants control of Air Inter and UTA, two other French Airlines. Italy's Alitalia recently signed commercial and financial links with Iberia, the Spanish airline, and USAIR; SAS and Swissair will swap shares; Singapore Airlines is seeking a stake in Swissair.

Sir Leon said that he told British Airways, KLM and Sabena that their link-up had "many potential benefits" and clearly fitted in with EEC plans to dismantle trade and other barriers by the end of 1992.

But he said his letter also expressed the commission's fears that the tripartite venture would reduce competition for small air carriers.

Business News Briefs

Inflation slows down: France registered a slowdown in its inflation rate in May with consumer prices rising by 0.2 per cent compared with 0.4 per cent in April, according to preliminary figures released Thursday, by the National Statistics Institute (Insee).

Over a year ending May 1990, inflation is standing at 3 per cent, compared with 3.2 per cent for the year ending April 1990 and 3.4 per cent for the first three months of 1990.

For the first five months of 1990, inflation reached 1.4 per cent and the government is anticipating a 2.5 per cent rise in consumer prices for the whole year in 1990 compared with 3.6 per cent for 1989. (Kuna)

Drop in turnover: The West German Basf chemical firm suffered a four per cent drop in turnover in the first six months of this year, reflecting a trend that has affected several major West German chemical products manufacturers.

Bayer and Hoechst had recently reported similar drops in turnover.

BASF chairman Hans Albers said Thursday that after last year's good results, the Basf group experienced a four per cent drop in turnover to 23.6 billion West German marks (\$14 billion). The results of Basf subsidiary, Erlöse Ltd., were down five per cent to 11 billion marks (\$6.5 billion). (UPI)

McDonald's opens outlet: McDonald's gave gourmet food for thought Thursday when the American hamburger chain opened a new outlet almost next door to Girardet, one of the world's most famous restaurants.

Fredy Girardet, a local Swiss, is ranked by critics including the French as one of the world's finest chefs and some say he is the best of all. (UPI)

Controllers strike: Brussels national airport was at a standstill on Friday as air traffic controllers went on strike for part of the day, airport officials said.

The stoppage was planned to last until 3 pm (1300 GMT) on Friday and public announcements at Zaventem Airport informed passengers that no aircraft would depart or land before then. Flights were diverted to Luxembourg, Paris, Maastricht or Cologne. (Reuters)

Customs ICs: Five US electronics firms will join Toyota Motor Corp. in developing custom-made electronic components for vehicles and products manufactured by the Japanese automaker in the future, the company announced Friday.

The Nagoya-based company said 23 items are slated for joint development, including custom integrated circuits for suspension control, standard cell ICs for body control, interface ICs and analog-to-digital converters for engine control, ICs for engine clusters and Dolby ICs for audio equipment. (UPI)

Gas stake sold: Broken Hill Proprietary Co. Ltd said Thursday it sold part of the company's stake in properties on Australia's north west shelf for \$525 million in an effort to bring its share in one of the world's largest natural gas fields into "better shape".

BHP, Australia's largest company, said in a statement it had sold 30 per cent of a 40-per cent interest in Woodside Petroleum Ltd to Barclays de Zoete Wedd Australia Ltd subsidiary of Barclays Bank, London. (UPI)

Airport capacity: Consumer groups and airlines have called on governments and other responsible authorities to speed up their efforts to expand airport capacity and allow more efficient use of airspace.



Menem (left) shakes hands with Spanish firm Telefonica de Espana representative Enrique Ibanez June 28. (Reuters wirephoto)

UK workers rate 2nd

Calling in sick

LONDON, June 30, (Kuna): Britons are the second worst in Europe for taking time off work sick, according to new figures published today.

British rate of 2.6 per cent of total available man hours lost due to illness is second only to Holland, where there is a more liberal attitude towards workers claiming sick leave, the European Economic Community figures, which were highlighted here, revealed.

It is a full percentage point higher than Germany, which has a similar labour force, and more than half a percentage point higher than the common market average.

The Irish absenteeism record is more than a full one percentage point lower.

In terms of the total amount of working time lost through illness, Britain's average of 25.7 million hours per week represents almost a third of the European total of 92.4 million, the EEC figures said.

In a statement issued on behalf of several consumer groups and airlines, which met here recently, the International Air Transport Association (IATA) notes that the congestion of many airways and airports could, if not overcome, limit the prospects for effective liberalisation, which has had the benefit of increased airline efficiency, more services and better price options. (Kuna)

Stake in Loewe Opta: Matsushita Electric Industrial Co. announced Friday it will acquire a minority stake in Loewe Opta GmbH of West Germany to start joint development of digital and colour television sets.

To promote the venture, Matsushita has agreed to acquire a minority stake in the West German firm, based in Kronach, southern Germany, the Osaka-based company said. (UPI)

New 5p coins for Britain: A lighter and smaller 5 pence coin entered circulation Wednesday, in response to public demand for coins that are kinder on pockets and easier to handle, the Royal Mint said on Thursday. (UPI)

Bush call for tax increase reignites rich-vs-poor battle in Congress

WASHINGTON, June 29, (AP): President George Bush's call for a tax increase is reigniting the rich-vs-poor battle that ripped through the US Congress last year when Bush demanded a cut in the capital gains tax rate.

Leaders of the opposition Democratic Party say a reduction in the capital gains tax — which applies to profits on the sale of investments, such as stocks and real estate — would benefit the rich. Bush says it would stimulate economic growth by providing greater incentive for investments.

During his 1988 presidential election campaign, Bush repeatedly said he would not raise taxes. His most famous

line from the campaign was "read my lips: no new taxes."

On Wednesday, however, he conceded that higher tax revenues will be necessary to cut the US budget deficit. At the same time, he called for "growth incentives" — political code for a cut in the capital gains tax rate.

Thus, Bush appeared to be seeking higher overall taxes, while pushing for a reduction in the capital gains tax. That combination provoked an immediate outcry by the opposition Democrats. They said Bush's Republican Party was trying to put the burden of reducing the budget deficit on ordinary Americans, while helping the rich to get richer.

The Democratic study group, a liberal group of congressmen, circulated a letter yesterday signed by 134 members of Congress who said that "if the president insists that we need new taxes, we feel they must be levied against... those at the very high end of the income scale."

Foreign commentators, who see the huge US budget deficit as a world problem, on Wednesday welcomed Bush's concession on tax increases.

Financial markets, meanwhile, had a mixed and slightly nervous reaction. The dollar fell against other major currencies around the globe. Stock prices soared in Tokyo,

and European stock markets shrugged off the news.

The news was prominently displayed in the foreign press.

Some newspapers couldn't resist a dig.

The financial page of Amsterdam's De Volkskrant newspaper sarcastically wrote its lead story like a fairy tale: "Once upon a time he told the American people he would resist with all his might any increase in taxes."

The Milan daily Corriere Della Sera's headline said in part: "To contain the deficit, he has to eat his words."

The dollar fell on the prospect that tax increases would lower US interest rates.

Trump to sell off some assets to keep afloat

NEW YORK, June 29, (Reuters): Billionaire Donald Trump, who used to boast that he had mastered "the art of the deal," will have to sell off some of his most prized properties to keep afloat after reaching a last-minute deal with bankers to stave off bankruptcy.

Analysts said on Wednesday that the fast-track developer appears to have given his bank creditors the upper hand in his daily financial affairs and might have to sell off such trophies as New York's Plaza hotel.

Under an agreement reached on Tuesday with his bankers, Trump received \$20 million of a \$85 million loan, enough to make a crucial bond payment.

But in return he had to agree to a wide-ranging plan that calls for selling off a number of his gilded assets and placing his empire under tight financial controls.

Trump's personal chapbook is being limited to \$450,000 a month for the rest of 1990, and less thereafter.

Each of his properties and expenditures will also be carefully monitored to make sure they conform with a business plan.

هذا من الأصل

Glamour girls are not in vogue

By Vernon Scott

HOLLYWOOD: Is the traditional movie glamour girl extinct, or maybe obsolete? If Madonna is the last such icon, glamour is in big trouble. There was a time — a long time — when female sexuality was a major factor in motion pictures. But men's magazines, movie nudity and feminist cries of exploitation have tumbled the publicly sensuous woman into disrepute.

Perhaps because only a tiny percentage of the female population meets Hollywood's standards of perfection, the deification of sex symbols has been banned from the land.

For 40 years the movie-going public oohed and aahed at such goddesses as Clara Bow, Marlene Dietrich, Lana Turner, Rita Hayworth, Betty Grable, Marilyn Monroe, Raquel Welch and even early Bo Derek, savouring their beauty and sexuality.

There were scores of sex stars, many of them talented actresses and singers.

Today the breed is nearing extinction. And it's a shame that any species should disappear in these times of ecological consciousness and environmental preservation.

Worse, they're being replaced by Schwarzenegger and Stallone going topsless.

One of the great glamour girls of the 1930s and 1940s was Alice Faye who starred in 45 movies in the heyday of glamour, most of them musicals and most under contract to 20th Century Fox.

In her years as a superstar there was no nudity in movies, only flirtatious necklines and an occasional flash of shapely limb during a dance number.

Glamour girls were fun, a tease, a hint, a promise, a mystery. They weren't supposed to be real.

They also were covered up. Glamour was an innocent movie game compared to today's overt and blatant screen sex, as seen in *Wild Orchids* and *Nine 1/2 Weeks*.

Faye's screen sexuality, naive by 1990's standards, was expressed in her blond beauty, a throb in her voice, a full figure and a twinkle in her eye.

Her best films included *In Old Chicago*, *Alexander's Ragtime Band*, *Little Old New York*, *Lillian Russell*, *Tin Pan Alley*, *Hello Frisco Hello*, *Fallen Angel* and *State Fair*.

Today Faye is 75 and living in



Madonna: last of the icons

retirement in Palm Springs with musician-comedian Phil Harris, her husband of 48 years.

She's still beautiful and vibrant, but she doesn't go to see movies.

"I'm happy I came along before the day of the action-adventure films and nude scenes," she said in an interview. "They aren't for me."

"Glamour girls and musicals made the money so studios could afford to make dramatic pictures. It was women who played the leads in those musicals — Grable, Hayworth, Garland, Ginger Rogers, Doris Day, Mitzi Gaynor, Eleanor Powell and a lot of others."

"When musicals and light comedies were the rage there were as many or more female stars as actors."

"But they were a different kind of actor. My leading men included Tyrone Power, Dana Andrews, George Murphy, Don Ameche, John Payne and Jack Haley."

"They weren't big macho guys who had to prove how strong they were physically. Even Robert Taylor, Errol Flynn, Jimmy Cagney, Humphrey Bogart and Gary Cooper were more gentle, sensitive and romantic than today's male stars are asked to play."

"Phil and I don't go to theatre to see movies. We see them once in a while on television."

"It's a whole new ball game. In the old days Hollywood stars all knew each other and we were friends. We went to the same parties. Today the stars look alike. They don't seem to have

the longevity of my generation.

"I see today's stars and think it's a shame they will never know how good the old days were."

Although she hasn't worked in a movie since the late 1970s, Faye manages to keep busy.

She has a new book on the stands titled "Growing Old But Staying Young," a concept that easily applies to her. The book discusses diets, exercise and leading the good life.

"It's not an autobiography," she said. "It makes six major points for 'young elders' — instead of senior citizens — for taking care of themselves."

"The points are to stay active and involved, eat well-balanced meals, no smoking, easy exercises, seeing a doctor when necessary and, most important of all, having a sense of humour."

A young elder herself, Faye travels once a month to cities around the country for Pfizer Pharmaceuticals addressing crowds at senior citizens centre, hospitals, convalescent homes and such.

"Just saying 'hello' helps a lot," she said, smiling. "They remember. I talk to them about health programmes, having a good attitude and being responsible for themselves."

"They have to rely on themselves. I cringe on my travels to see older people carrying heavy bags and things. Nobody helps them."

Faye and Harris need no help. Then do their own marketing and cooking and see old friends like Buddy Rogers, who also lives in Palm Springs.

Steve McQueen's 'last love affair'

Christina's affair with star's 'ghost'

By Frank Durham

SITTING in the peace of a turn-of-the-century ranch-house, the woman with the long, dark hair, sensitive features and slim, model-girl figure told me of the "love affair" that has both changed — and saved — her life.

Australian-born Christina Stevens firmly believes that, for seven years, her life was haunted by Steve McQueen. The actor died in a little Mexican hospital in November, 1980.

During that time, Steve dictated an autobiographical book to her. She interwove this with her own uncanny experiences during her "obsession," and now the book is being published in Australia, America and Britain.

It contains incidents from Steve's life that only a close friend could have known.

Yet 41-year-old Christina, an award-winning maker of TV commercials, never met the blonde, blue-eyed actor while he was alive.

And, by an amazing series of coincidences, Christina has come to live in Steve McQueen's ranch, own his plane and surround herself with his possessions.

She may have been thrice-married. McQueen's last love, she says, she has written for him. "One — The Ultimate Adventure" has a plot that could well inspire his last movie.

Among its dramas are the psychic warning that saved Christina's life in a disastrous car crash. And the ghostly hand that took over the controls of Steve's plane when she misjudged a loop.

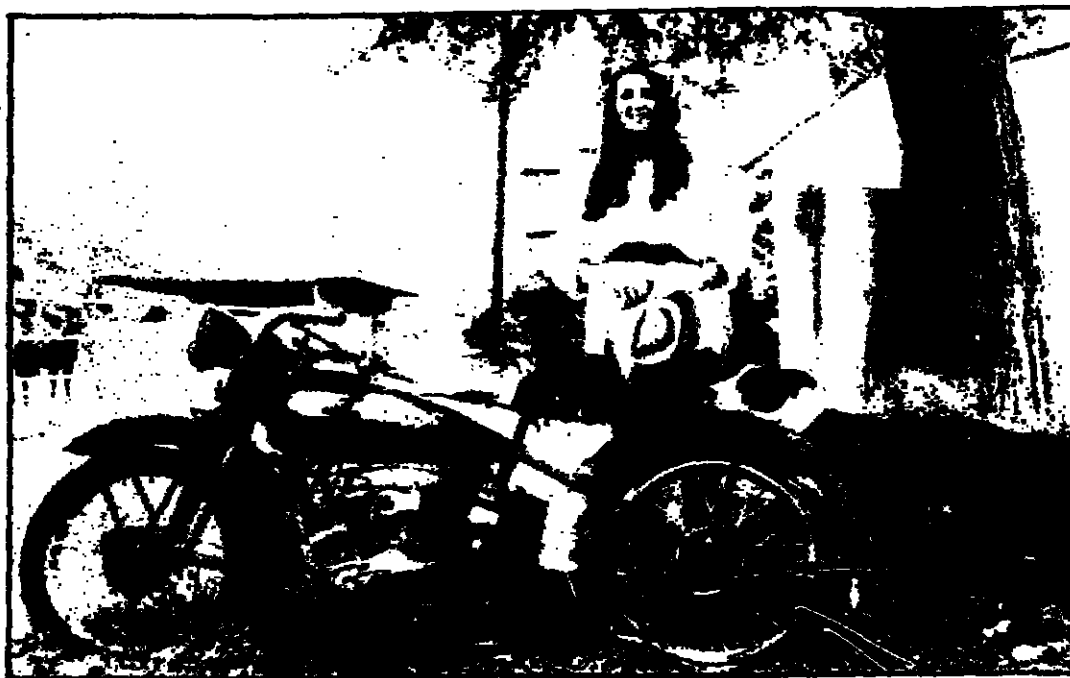
Among its secrets are the horror Steve felt as a child when he discovered his mother in the back seat of a car with a man. And of a little-known love he had as a Marine.... Caroline, the girl with green eyes.

Christina, a self-confessed sceptic about unworldly happenings, has steadfastly refused to tell her story to reporters from the tabloid newspapers or TV stations. But, as we sat in the house where Steve had married his first wife, Barbara, she decided that it was time to put her "obsession" on record at last.

As she spoke, quietly and matter-of-factly, Steve's old-fashioned juke-box glowed in a corner. His gun hung over the fireplace and his tables and chairs stood ready for a meal.

Outside, a soft rain cloaked the mountains of the remote and peaceful fruit-growing area of Santa Paula, just two hours drive from frenetic Los Angeles.

A white cross had mysteriously appeared on their



Above: American advertising executive Christina Stevens, who claims she is haunted by the late actor Steve McQueen. Left: American heart-throb Steve McQueen, who died in 1980.

slopes when Steve died in Juarez. Steve's old Harley-Davidson motor-cycle and a vintage, red-painted Diamond-T truck, both discovered by Christina in the undergrowth, stood as though waiting for their owner to return to spark them once more into life.

The presence of the star who died of lung cancer seemed everywhere. It made Christina Stevens' story easier to believe.

The woman who once jettisoned the world on high paying assignments certainly looked more relaxed than haunted. She told me that her life had changed "radically" since Steve came into

it. Now she was a softer person and devoted much of her time to the star's little-known passions — world peace and children.

During the time she was writing the book, her fortunes had changed from riches to being broke. When first trying to sell the story, the woman who once made her living by selling anything to anyone, tasted the bitterness of rejection for the first time.

First, Christina let me read what she has written. Once passage said poignantly of McQueen: "He was a tortured soul who spoke to me. He told me to put a pen in my hand and

write. Then he took me on the adventure of a lifetime."

"He showed me visions as if I were inside a movie; making me feel what he felt... the confusion, the sadness, the anxiety, the anger, the emptiness. Making me laugh and taking me to tears."

"I pretended for his sake he was real. And, every night, after a long day's work, I would dolefully relax myself, crasing all thought and — to-d! — there he would be. I couldn't ignore the sensation of his presence, proving his existence by giving me dictation and showing me his life."

"Speaking unspoken words with great love and caring. Sharing with me, so that I would learn. I still couldn't help but suspect my sanity. The kind of thing happens to other people but not to me."

"A dream began a love affair... yet it was the kind of love most people never experience in this life."

Although Christina admitted to a friend "I have fallen in love with a ghost," she told me Steve's presence was a comforting sensation of warmth. And she wrote:

"I would fall asleep, feeling his presence all around me. I would wake in the morning, distinctly hearing his footsteps leaving my bedroom."

"He would walk through the house, open and close the door and start up a car. But, with my eyes closed, I saw no-one."

The dream that began Christina's strange affair was set in a valley during a war. She was at an

abandoned airstrip and became mesmerised by one of the pilots there. He was a man with sandy hair and steel-blue eyes... a man just like Steve McQueen.

Later, when she was looking for a hangar for her plane, Christina came to an airfield at a place called Santa Ynez, not far from where she now lives. It was the place she had seen in her dream. They told her Steve had often visited the airfield.

Christina became addicted to finding out everything she could about the dead star. The, while practising aerobatics with Mike Dewey, a friend of Steve's, a strange thing happened.

She told me: "I pushed the nose down and we'd go diving to the ground. Then I pulled the aircraft up. There is a point when you have got to get the stick right back when you're making a loop. If you don't, there won't be enough power and the plane will spin backwards."

"This isn't very nice and you end up as a mess all over the ground."

"On the last loop, I misjudged the angle. The stick went right out of my hands and back into my turn. But, after we'd landed, Mike denied that he had touched the stick. He asked, 'why should I, Christina? You did a perfect loop.'"

Stranger things were to happen. Everywhere Christina went, she bumped into people who had known Steve McQueen. She found herself having "conversations" with him. And she wondered whether she was going mad.

The one-time responsible advertising executive had a personality change. She began to act the hellraiser. Christina collected speeding tickets, forgot appointments and found it hard to resist any man with blue eyes. A long-standing romance began to break up.

But Christina's biggest task was writing Steve's book over five, long years. She admits that some parts were so intimate that they embarrassed her. There was the incident of Steve as a child finding his mother in the back-seat of a car with a man. And then there was the loving memory of the girl with green eyes, who came into Steve's life before any of his three wives. In the book, Steve speaks also of the experience of dying and what happened to him after his death in Mexico.

Now Christina, the book accepted for publication, is to sell the ranch on which she was lived so happily.

Rocking on to buy Jo a new life

Brave little girl determined to succeed

By Frances Hubbard

BRITTLE bone victim Jo Miller will never be able to go to a disco and dance with the other teenagers. But rock 'n' roll is changing her life.

For a group of schoolboy musicians is raising money so that 18-year-old Jo can go to university. If they buy her a car and a special electric wheelchair, Jo will be able to study computer science. And her new-found independence will let her have fun, too.

Brave Jo has spent her life in a wheelchair that has to be pushed. Her new wheels will allow her to go where she wants, when she wants.

Vivacious Jo can fracture her ribs just by sneezing, or break her wrists simply by opening a heavy book. But her sheer courage in overcoming countless accidents to come up smiling touched the hearts of a rock group of fellow sixth-formers, called The Interior Decorators.

They set out to raise the £20,000 needed to buy the car and magic wheelchair Jo, from Lancing, Sussex, needs to take her three-year-degree course at Sussex University.

Since the group, from Angmering School, Sussex, launched "Jo's Wheels Appeal" six months ago, the money has come rolling in. While they rock 'n' roll to help her, other pupils organised fun runs and sponsored slims.

As she watched the band tune up their guitars, Jo said: "Every penny they raise towards new wheels means an awful lot to me. It's not just transport they're buying me, it's independence."

"I'm a pretty self-reliant person and it really goes against the grain when I have to ask my parents or friends for lifts all the time. They won't be there to help me at university, so it's vital that I can get around on my own."

"Just little things, like going out for a newspaper or a pint of milk that are a major expedition now, would suddenly be within my reach. I'd be able to get up kerbs, without someone there to push me along."

"I have to be very careful not to knock into things or tackle anything too heavy without help. But, with a new car and an electric wheelchair, I'll have 100 per cent



Rock could be sending Jo to college. The Interior Decorators are determined to buy her new wheels for campus life.

more freedom than I do now. I'm really looking forward to the chance of turning up at a party on my own."

Jo, who is a big fan of the band, added: "It was a complete surprise when they offered to help. They've been absolutely brilliant."

"I've known the lads for years and they just decided to do me a massive good turn before we left school and went out separate ways."

"I doubt if there's a single pupil in the whole school who hasn't heard about the

appeal. The band's been tireless about putting up posters and getting people along to their concerts. They've even converted the staff to liking their songs."

James Coulling, the band's bass guitarist, told me: "Most of us have known Jo for a long time. She's a great person and really popular in the school. We wanted to give her a leaving present before we broke up for the summer."

"We realised how much she needed a car to get her round university, so we decided to give all the profits from our

concerts to her. We'd like to get her a Golf GTI, but I don't think we'll quite stretch to that!"

Lead singer Jacob Blackman added: "We're hoping to do some big concerts this summer — perhaps in London — to boost the appeal. It's hard work. But we've been practising at least twice a week in our own time so that we should be good enough. Modesty aside, I'd say we were pretty brilliant by now."

Jo is constantly battling against her

condition. But she is determined to go to university and lead as normal a life as possible. She told me: "I was very ill for three months at the beginning of the sixth form, so I couldn't go to school. And I was too full of pain killers to work from home."

"So I had to struggle to catch up with the rest of the class. But I swotted for my exams and I hope I'll do well."

"One of the worst problems with being in a wheelchair is that people tend to think you're mentally, as well as physically, disabled. They're very kind but they do talk down to me sometimes."

"By going to university and getting a degree, I hope I prove that a weak body doesn't equal a weak mind."

Jo has had to use all her courage to cope with terrible injuries caused by her brittle bone disease. She broke her thighs when she was ten years old and had a metal rod inserted in one of her legs. Her spine is twisted and, over the years, she has fractured her arms, collar bone, ankles, ribs and wrists.

Jo claimed that she is becoming more careful these days. "I've come to know my own limitations," she said. "I think I was more inclined to charge about and knock into things when I was a little girl. Now I am only too aware of the dangers."

"For instance, falling out of my chair would be a complete disaster. It's something I can't even risk. If I go over bumpy ground in my wheelchair, I have to make sure that I'm travelling at only about one mile an hour."

"But there's still a lot I can do — like go down to the pub with my friends. I don't make the mistake of wrapping myself up in cotton wool so that I'm completely safe but bored out of my mind."

Jo will be bound to a wheelchair for life. But doctors have told her that the worst of her disease is already over. As she has grown older, her bones are becoming stronger. So there is less chance of them snapping.

Meanwhile, Jo's friends are rocking on... intent on buying her a happy new life.

Contributions can be sent to Jo's Wheel Appeal, 4 Nursery Close, Lancing BN15 0HQ.

Sound effects

Rock: Joe Cocker, Joe Cocker Live, (Capitol, C-493416)

Is there anyone of the thirtysomething generation who can resist a wistful smile at just the mention of Joe Cocker, that wild-eyed, tie-dyed dervish of Woodstock?

The croaking crooner — or crooning croaker, if you prefer — is holding his own and gives a nice retrospective of his career on this album, which was recorded in Lowell, Massachusetts last fall.

Cocker's strengths have always been his passion, his excellent choice in material and the way he makes a song his very own. And while these songs are all pretty straightforward renderings, they always smolder and quite often catch fire. Maybe the arms don't flail about like they did in 1969 but Cocker can still squeeze every bit of emotion and soul out of a song.

Cocker is definitely playing to his audience here — those stoned comrades of the Woodstock nation who grew up to be VH-1 yuppies. He kicks things off with Dave Mason's *Feeling Alright?* and leads a nice nostalgia trip through his hippie hits *Hitchcock Railway*, *With a Little Help From My Friends*, *You are so Beautiful*, *She Came in Through the Bathroom Window* and *High Time We Went*.

Cocker also offers some of his more recent works, the stirring *Unchain My Heart*, and *When the Night Comes*, and classy interpretations of his two Randy Newman favourites, *Guilty* and the comically lusty *You Can Leave Your Hat On*.

Jazz: Don Sickler, "The Music of Kenny Dorham (Reservoir SRSD CD 111)

Trumpeter, bandleader, arranger, producer Don Sickler has a particular fascination for the music of under-appreciated late trumpeter Kenny Dorham.

This session is a seven-tune CD reissue of his first studio date as a leader. The 1983 recording was made with four musicians all of whom had worked with Dorham in the 1950s or 1960s: Cedar Walton, Jimmy Heath, Ron Carter and Billy Higgins.

It is an exquisite celebration of some of the most beautiful melodies in jazz: *Spring Cannon*, *Escapade*, *Windmill*, *Philly Twist*, *La Meshu*, and *The Fox*.

It fills a void, because there is not enough Dorham material available these days.

Classical: Zubin Mehta, Berlin Philharmonic, *Bartok: Concerto for Orchestra Miraculous Mandarin Suite* (Sony 45748).

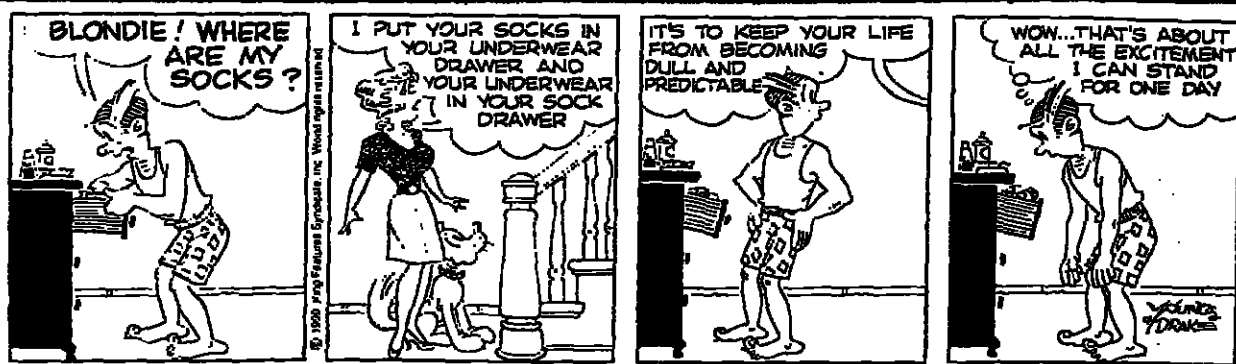
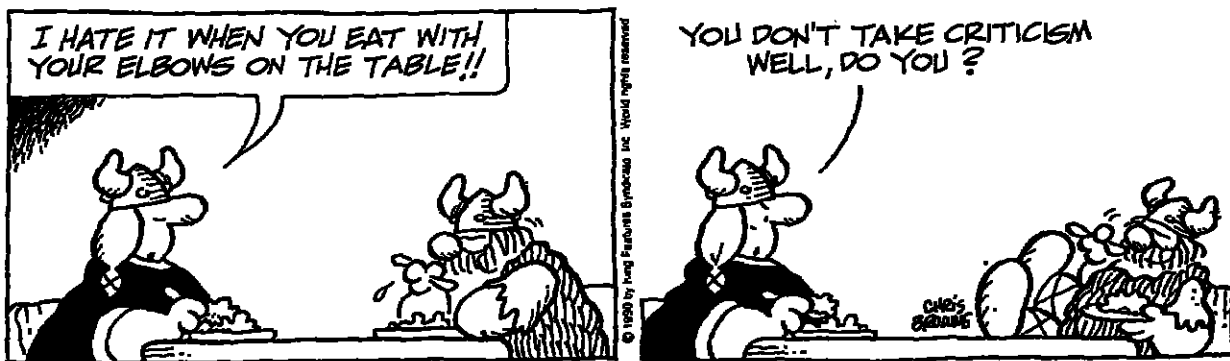
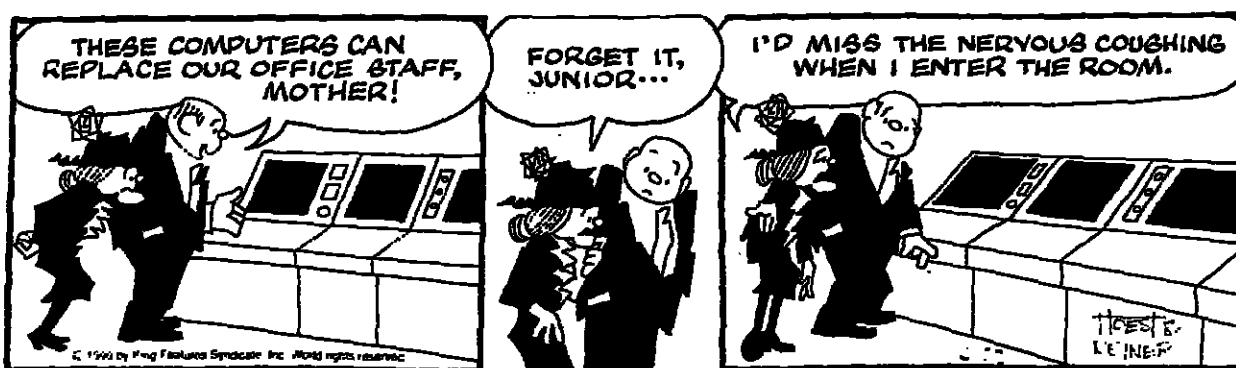
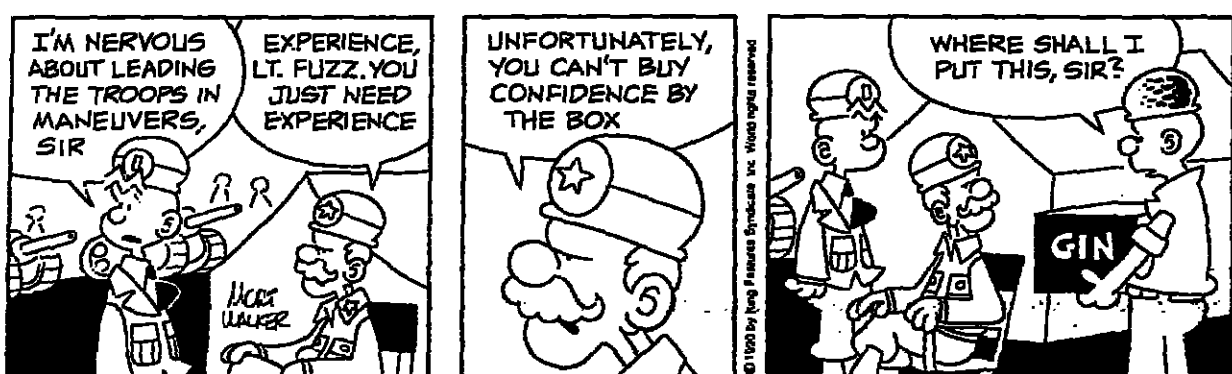
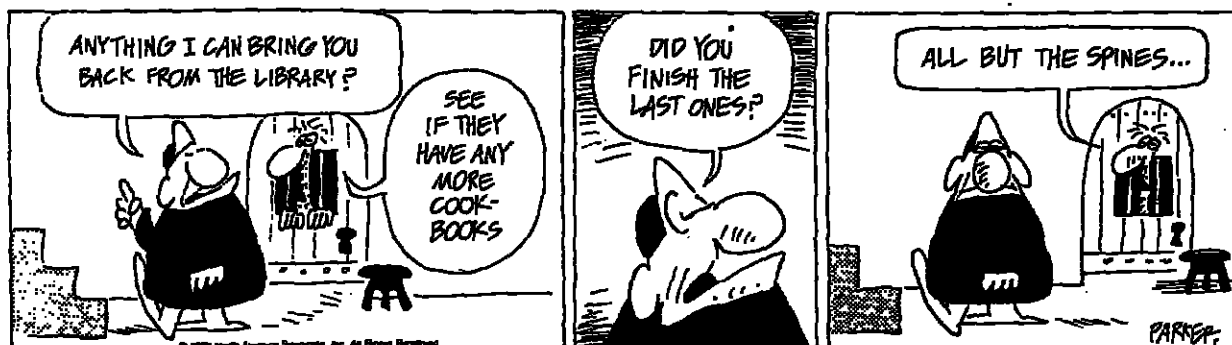
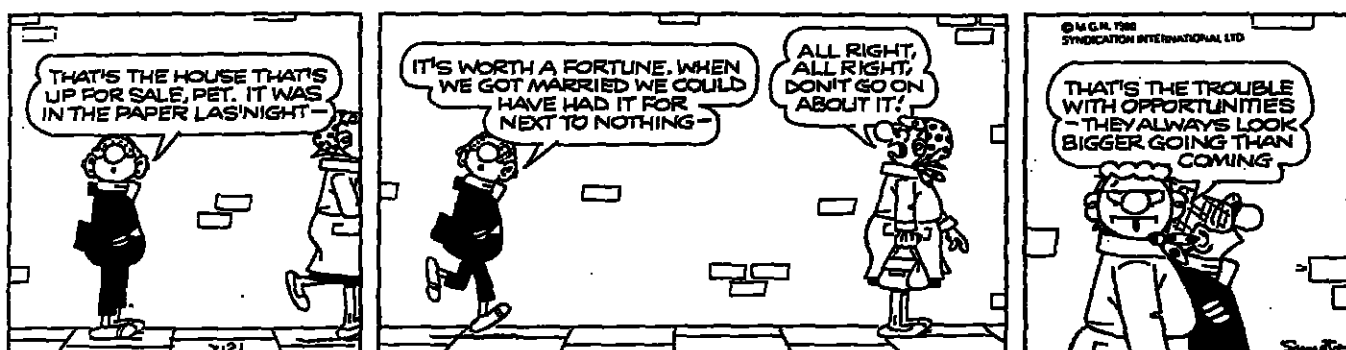
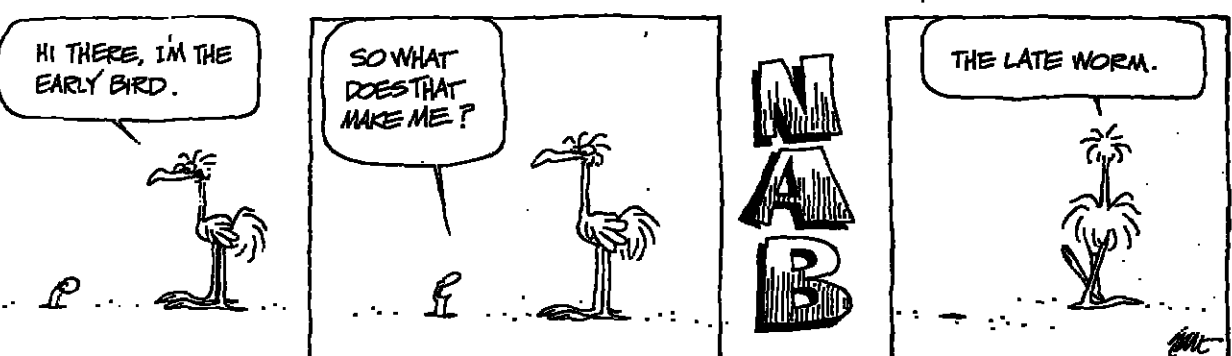
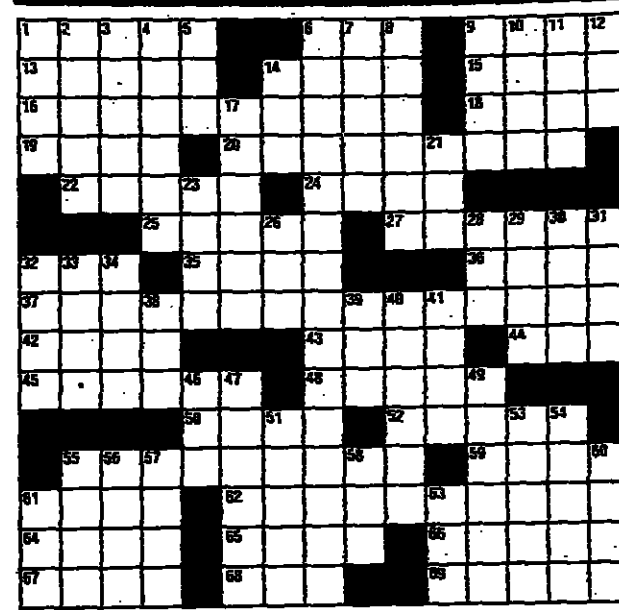
Attention, Sheriff, you think *2 Live Crew* is risqué? Wait till you hear Bartok's *Miraculous Mandarin*. Better money over to the classical record store, hitch up your uniform, and give that feller behind the counter a little friendly warning about selling that dirty Bartok.

This is a ballet Blaise Starr could dance to. The story: thieves make a pretty girl lure a rich mandarin to their den. She dances, inflaming him so much that when the thieves stab him he refuses to die, or even to pay them much attention, so much does he desire the girl. Finally she gives herself to him, and only after he has experienced what the French call *The Little Death* does he succumb to the big one.

All of this is, in Bartok's ballet, profusely illustrated. With trombones, *Miraculous Mandarin* scandalized clergy at its premiere in Cologne, Germany, in 1926, with the result that the German version of the Broadway county Sheriff's department banned it.

Zubin Mehta and the Berlin Philharmonic turn in a stunning account of this crank-it-up suite. The longer work on this new Sony release, *Concerto for Orchestra*, is far better known and far more widely recorded, so fans are more likely to hear tenors or inner voices not played their favourite way, but no one will find fault with the superb sonics.

"Concerto for Orchestra" is one of the 20th century's top 10 masterworks, as popular as it is critically acclaimed, and if you don't have it yet you'd better get on the case... before fearful record store owners yank this from their shelves.

BLONDIE — By Dean Young & Stan Drake**HAGAR THE HORRIBLE** — By Dik Browne**AGATHA CRUMM** — By Bill Hoest**BEETLE BAILEY** — By Mort Walker**THE WIZARD OF ID** — By Brant Parker & Johnny Hart**ANDY CAPP****B.C.** — By Johnny Hart**HE-MAN** — By G. Fortson & J. Shull**TODAY'S CROSSWORD**

- ACROSS**
- 1 Helen's abductor
 - 6 Pose
 - 9 Great expectation
 - 13 Guan's capital
 - 14 Before plane or space
 - 15 Specialty for Simon Estes
 - 16 Something very simple
 - 18 Circus structure
 - 19 Facilitate
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 - 22 — precedent
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 - 30 Purplish brown
 - 31 Flower support
 - 32 Criticize harshly
 - 33 Broadway vamp
 - 34 Employs
 - 38 Weep
 - 39 Today
 - 40 Young Twist
 - 41 Recent Comb. form
 - 46 Limb
 - 47 Pumpkins and melons
 - 49 Vertical shaft on a sundial
 - 51 Attu native
 - 53 Turn over
 - 54 Scorch lightly
 - 55 Poet Teasdale
 - 56 Trolley, in Britain
 - 57 "At liberty"
 - 58 Small bird
 - 60 One that does: Suffix
 - 61 Emerged victorious
 - 63 Old French coin

ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE:

AHEAD GOBS PISA
 CURIO ORAL OMAR
 HELL DOLLY OPIUS
 EYE REBEL ORANO
 SKYB YDS SAN
 ELTON REHEATS
 GORDON MOA IAMA
 GIDDY E COLUMBUS
 SPIUE NME SNELLS
 SNIPPET SLEET
 WAS AHA ARTY
 OLEIAN TRUER OBI
 RIDAN WHAT UPIDOC
 SHUT KITE NOONE
 TAXI SCAN BIRDS

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN AND OMAR SHARIF
IT TAKES TWO TO TANGO

North-South vulnerable. East able chance by bidding four spades at this vulnerability, but passing risks an even bigger loss. West led the king of hearts and East made the first good play for the defense by overtaking with the ace and cashing the queen. To complete declarer's discomfort, East continued with another heart, forcing declarer to ruff high. Had West overruffed, this hand would have been history. No matter how West continued, declarer would have gained the lead, drawn trumps and made the rest of the tricks. In the best traditions of the opposition, West upset declarer's apple cart by discarding a club, allowing declarer to capture the trick with his jack of spades. Declarer did the best he could by crossing to dummy and trying the So far this week, the defensive trump finesse, but to no avail. West maneuvers we have presented have taken the king and sat back and wait-been, by and large, individual efforts to score the nine of trumps, forts. More often than not, though, which had been promoted to the winning defense requires partner-ship cooperation to achieve the desired goal. East's four-heart preempt ac-sider the spots in the trump suit, completed its purpose—forcing the You can often pick up an extra trick opponents to guess at a very high by refusing to overuff when declar-level. South was taking a consider-er's trump suit has been weakened.

The bidding:
East 4♥ South 4♠ West 4♥ North 4♠
Pass

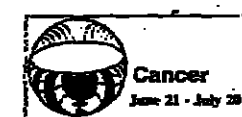
Opening lead: King of ♥

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**YOUR STARS**

Aries
March 21 - April 20
Before implementing any big changes prepare for them carefully. Avoid eating too much of any one thing, instead vary your diet. Do not do anything that you feel is wrong or even illegal. Be considerate.



Cancer
June 21 - July 20
What seems at first like a good idea will prove to be nothing of the kind. If you ask for more than you deserve you will not get it. Instead of having a succession of late nights make sure you get enough rest. Be reasonable.



Libra
Sept. 23 - Oct. 22
A personal matter should be attended to without delay. If you leave it be it will have most unpleasant repercussions. You should think of the past only in connection with the present and future, no time for regrets. Be magnanimous.



Capricorn
Dec. 21 - Jan. 19
What you had thought would not happen because you had left it too late, will in fact indeed take place. You would, however, be wrong to expect too much and should watch for snags that are not immediately apparent.



Taurus
April 21 - May 20
Do your best to avoid making a complicated situation even worse. Your lucky numbers are 8 and 22. Show a little more goodwill. Listen more attentively to what others are saying and take their views into account. Be tolerant.



Leo
July 21 - Aug. 21
An unpleasant truth should be faced and dealt with. If you try to hide from it, it will manifest itself in some other fashion — it will not just go away. If you have made a promise keep it instead of trying to evade it. Be truthful.



Scorpio
Oct. 23 - Nov. 22
Do not get into a rut nor try to do too many things at a time. You will be able to make a few small changes for very much the better. There will be a good opportunity but you could easily miss it. Be sincere.



Aquarius
Jan. 20 - Feb. 18
You will now master what you have been trying to learn with only scant success hitherto. You should beware of saying anything you do not really mean. A temptation to go on a shopping spree will have to be resisted. Be amenable.



Gemini
May 21 - June 20
There is good reason why should curb your impulses. Also, do not let yourself be dictated to by "instincts," instead listen to the voice of reason. You should stick to your principles without being obdurate. Be courteous.



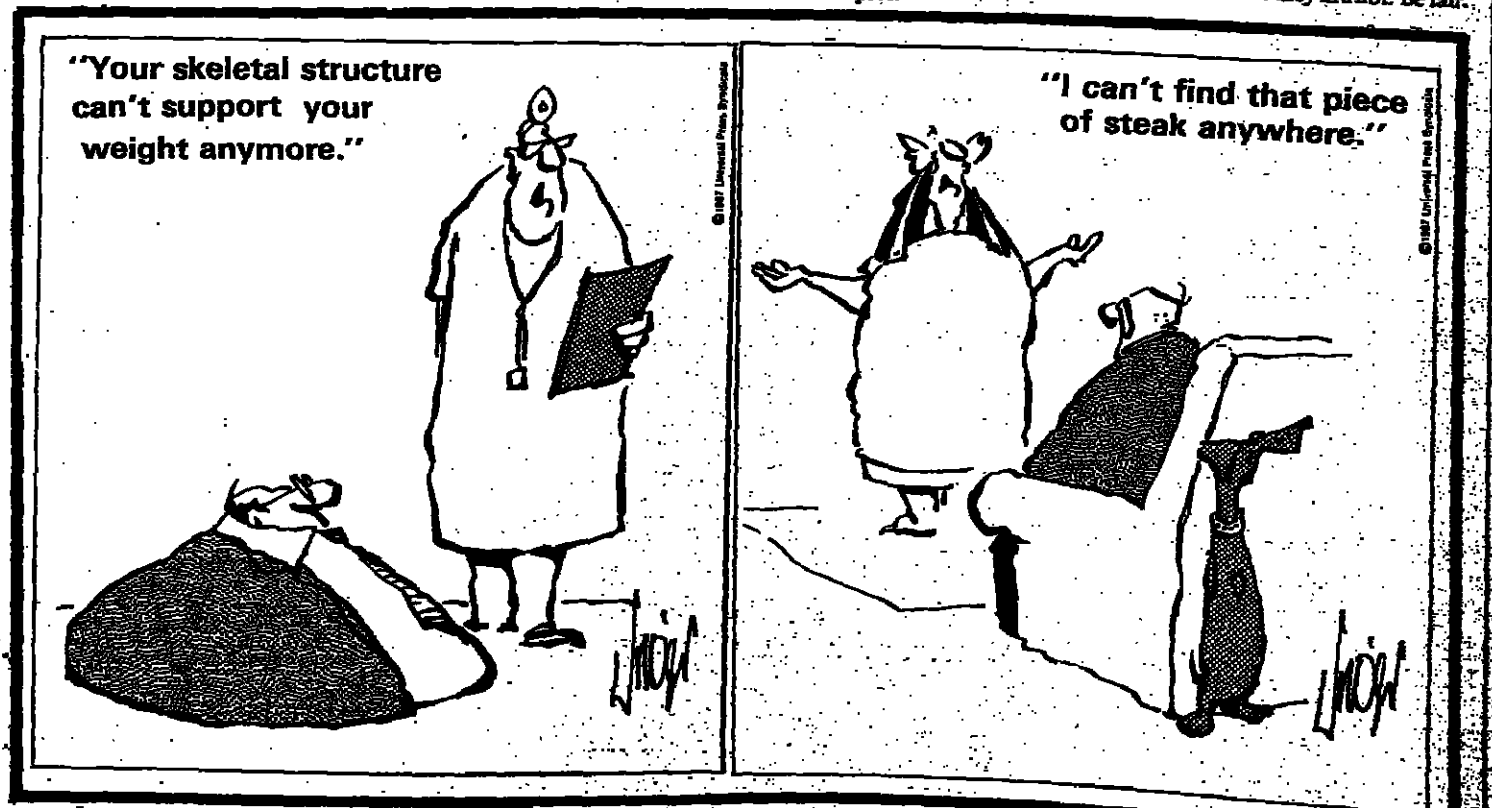
Virgo
Aug. 23 - Sept. 22
An offer or proposal should be considered carefully. It is not all it appears to be. You will be able to do a friend a favour and it will be much appreciated if you do. Avoid allowing your emotions to run away with you. Be a little more reticent.



Sagittarius
Nov. 23 - Dec. 21
You will have to deal with someone who is easily offended, so tread most carefully. You will tend to feel rather listless and should try to summon up a little more will-power. Although there will be some unpleasant factors, there are also a number of things better than expected. Be helpful.



Pisces
Feb. 19 - March 20
You are more liable to lose or mislay objects and should do all you can to counter the trend. Make sure you do not do anything that would offend a friend or annoy your partner. If you expect others to be at your bid and call you will soon find out they are not. Be fair.



England name team for Test

LONDON, June 29, (Reuters): England today resisted the temptation to rush Angus Fraser back into Test cricket action.

The Middlesex seamer will join an unchanged squad of 12 at Edgbaston, Birmingham, next week for the deciding third match against New Zealand.

But the man who has become England's most reliable international bowler during the past year will not be playing. He will just be joining in the England practice sessions.

Selectors' chairman Ted Dexter, team manager Micky Stewart and captain Graham Gooch clearly feel Fraser needs more time to complete his recovery from a strained rib muscle which cut short his involvement in the tour of West Indies.

He tried to make a comeback in mid-May but then spent another three weeks on the sidelines.

Since that setback, Fraser has sent down 99 overs in four first class matches for Middlesex and, despite taking only six wickets, appears to have regained stamina and accuracy.

Loyalty to their current squad and lingering doubts about Fraser's ability to complete a five-day match have persuaded the selectors to stick with the same 12.

"Middlesex are without a game next week so we have taken the opportunity to invite Fraser to join in the squad's preparation and practice after his time out through injury," said Dexter.

For the third time this season Dexter's panel has been able to name an unchanged squad, something which has not happened at home for several years.

But there could be a change to the starting line-up, with Leicestershire all-rounder Chris Lewis making a Test debut at the expense of seamer Gladstone Small, who has failed to impress recently.

With the first two Tests both ending in tame draws because of rain there is everything to play for.

A victory would give England their first success in a home series since Australia were beaten 3-1 in 1985.

Squad: Graham Gooch, Mike Atherton, Alec Stewart, Allan Lamb, Robin Smith, Neil Fairbrother, Jack Russell, Phil DeFreitas, Gladstone Small, Eddie Hemmings, Devon Malcolm, Chris Lewis.

India win

SUNDERLAND, England, June 29, (Reuters): India beat the League Cricket Conference by 40 runs in their one-day 55 overs match yesterday.

Scoreboard

India Innings	
W. Raman b Walcott	0
N. Sidhu b Day	17
S. Tendulkar c Wundke b Holmes	19
M. Azharuddin b Wundke	20
D. Vengarkar c Borthwick b Day	28
Kapil Dev c Tuckwell b Wundke	0
K. More b Wundke	51
S. Raju not out	37
S. Sharma c Lambert b Walcott	6
A. Wasson c Ingham b McLeod	10
A. Kumble not out	2
Extras (b-7 lb-9 w-19 nb-6)	41
Total (for nine wickets)	231
Fall of wickets: 1-1-21 3-51 4-87 5-108 6-128 7-195 8-216 9-227	
Bowling: McLeod 11-1-44-1, Walcott 11-2-37-2, Holmes 11-5-20-1, Day 11-1-73-2, Wundke 11-4-43-3.	
League Cricket Conference	
C. Lambert c Kapil Dev b Sharma	22
D. Vengarkar c Sharma b S. Raju	15
D. Tuckwell c Vengarkar b Wasson	17
N. Heslton b More b Jumble	41
M. Ingham lbw b Sharma	26
S. Wundke c More b Kumble	3
K. McLeod not out	46
D. Borthwick lbw b Kapil Dev	1
A. Day c More b Sharma	0
V. Walcott b Kapil Dev	0
H. Holmes not out	0
Extras (b-10 w-3 nb-6)	19
Total (for nine wickets)	191
Fall of wickets: 1-41 2-48 3-92 4-119 5-127 6-189 7-190 8-190 9-191	
Bowling: Kapil Dev 10-3-29-2, Sharma 10-2-25-4, Wasson 7-0-39-1, Tendulkar 6-1-16-0, Kumble 11-4-32-2, Raju 11-0-40-0.	
Result: India won by 40 runs.	

Coleman goes to New Jersey

NEW YORK, June 29, (AP): Derrick Coleman went to the New Jersey Nets with the first pick before the National Basketball Association draft took on a shooter's look. Coleman, a 6-foot-10, 235-pound All-American forward, was the all-time leading rebounder in collegiate history and Syracuse's all-time leading scorer with 2,143 points.

He was a starter for four years for the Orangemen and was almost universally considered the best NBA prospect.

With Coleman taken, big men became a scarce commodity. Seattle took 6-3 Oregon state point guard Gary Payton and Denver followed with Lsu's 3-1 Chris Jackson, a 29-point scorer in his two years in college. Not since Detroit took Isiah Thomas with the No. 2 pick in 1981 has a guard been taken as high as Payton.

Tour de France begins today

Lemond set to defend title



Fabio Parra of Colombia checks his breathing capacity during medical examinations on the eve of the start of Tour de France cycling race yesterday. (Reuters wirephoto)

POITIERS, France, June 29, (AP): Can Greg Lemond do it again?

Last year, the American astounded the cycling world by coming from behind on the last day to win the Tour de France for the second time.

Outside demands took their toll on Lemond over the winter, and a virus slowed his attempts to get back into shape even more.

But as the 1990 race begins tomorrow in a high-technology theme park called Futuroscope, people still keep a wary eye on Lemond. "I feel pretty good. Things are coming around just on time," Lemond said this week. "Considering the condition I started the season, I am not sure I am going to be turned around 100 per cent for the tour but I will be there."

Dangerous

Even a less-than-100 per cent Lemond is dangerous. He has based his whole year on winning this race for the third time.

His toughest competition could come from three other former champions — Irishman Stephen Roche, Pedro Delgado of Spain, and Laurent Fignon, the French star narrowly edged by Lemond last year.

Lemond after winning in 1986, missed the next two years recovering from an accidental shooting and various illnesses and ailments. He went into the tour last year as a question mark and came out a winner.

This year's race starts with a prologue of 6.5 kilometres (4 miles), a virtual sprint around the high-tech complex dotted with 360-degree movie theatres and video show rooms. That serves to give someone the famed yellow jersey emblematic of the leader.

For the first week relatively flat stages give the top positions to the sprinters. Then come the mountains, starting on July 9.

There are four days spent in the high mountains, two in the Alps and two in the Pyrenees. The mountain rides start with a quick detour through Switzerland to Geneva before returning to France.

Finished

All together it is a clockwise journey around France that stretches more than 4,320 kilometres (2,125 miles).

"I always go into the tour with the same idea to be strong from start to finish," Lemond said. Apparently it works. In just four appearances in the tour he has won twice, finished second and third.

But this year he has worked harder to get in shape. He had to.

"After April I had a virus for four weeks. I was exhausted every day and I didn't think I would turn around for the tour," Lemond said.

Before that everybody wanted a piece of him.

Victory head Gulf challenge

SARASOTA, Florida: With just over 24 hours to go to the first appearance of a Gulf powerboat team on the US racing circuit, the atmosphere in the coastal community of Sarasota, Florida has reached fever-pitch.

Normally, the Suncoast Off-shore Grand Prix is an event dominated by American racers. This year, however, the presence of UAE and Kuwaiti competitors has helped give the race an international flavour and has stirred up a strong competitive feeling.

Leading the charge will be Dubai's Victory Team, the most successful powerboat squad in the Middle East, who have been joined in Florida by Kuwait's Khalifa Al Qatani, another familiar face on the growing Gulf powerboat scene.

"I've never known the Florida racing public to be so captivated by a racing team," said event organiser Jack Pettley when asked about the enthusiasm generated by this year's race. "The Victory Team are everyone's favourites and they will have a huge support behind them when the race gets underway at midday tomorrow."

Although Al Qatani surprised the Dubai team by announcing his decision to compete in the Superboat Class alongside American veteran John Antonicelli in the mighty 46-foot "Spirit of America", Victory's Middle East champion Hamed Buhelba of the UAE wishes the Kuwaiti well.

"It's a great boost for Middle East racing to have both Victory Team and Khalifa Al Qatani racing in America," he said. "We won't be competing directly



Randy Seism

against him as we have not entered any boats in the Superboat grouping, but he will face very stiff opposition from some of America's top powerboat crews. Hopefully, he will get a good result."

With Victory boats competing in the Open, Pro-Stock and Stock Classes tomorrow, Gulf drivers will be attempting to win four of the US trophies on offer. In the Open Class it is Buhelba who carries Dubai's hopes.

Beside Victory manager Randy Seism, Buhelba will attempt to become the first Arab driver to win an American powerboat race — a prospect which gives the professional racing camel trainer a great deal of pride.

"It's a great honour for all of us to be ambassador for Dubai," he said. "Although we are here to win races, it is also important that we spread the word about Dubai as well as the growth of Gulf powerboat racing. Even before the first boat takes



Hamed Buhelba

to the Gulf of Mexico, the decision to race in Sarasota has been an overwhelming success for the team.

"When they have not been signing autographs for the hundreds of children following their every move, the victory crews have been meeting the American public and introducing them to life in the Gulf."

"I must admit I'd never even heard of Dubai until you came along," said American TV journalist Jim Jackson during an interview with drivers Saeed Al Tayer and Khalifa Harch.

"In Florida, people are very unaware of life your part of the world so we are delighted to learn from you and are proud to have you racing in Sarasota."

While the PR activities continue behind the scenes, Victory mechanics have been working round the clock to get the four competing boats ready on time. When the work is over, the team will be ready for the toughest challenge of their racing lives.

Chandler stuns Ivanchuk

MANILA, June 29, (Reuters): Top rated Soviet grandmaster Vassily Ivanchuk was upset today by British grandmaster Murray Chandler in the first round of a tournament to decide challengers for the world title play-off in 1993.

Chandler used a weak opening by Ivanchuk, ranked fourth in the world, to force him to resign in 49 moves of a French defence. Gata Lamsky, the 16-year-old defector from the Soviet Union who now plays for the United States, crushed Czech GM Lubomir Ftacnik in 37 moves of a queen's pawn opening to share opening day honours with Chandler.

Dorsett returning

NEW YORK, June 29, (AP): Tony Dorsett, the National Football League's second-leading career rusher who retired from the Denver Broncos last season, is attempting a comeback, according to a published report.

Dorsett, 36, is working out at the Dallas Cowboys' facilities and has instructed his agent, Wiet Stewart, to contact other NFL teams, the National reported in Today's editions.

Rose hits ton off 36 balls

LONDON, June 29, (Reuters): Graham Rose hit a century in 36 balls to help Somerset to a 346-run victory over part-timers Devon in the first round of the NatWest Trophy one-day cricket competition on Wednesday.

The 26-year-old Rose's 110 was the fastest-ever century in the competition, containing seven sixes and 10 fours as he dominated a stand of 189 in 11 overs with Chris Tavare for the fourth wicket.

Tavare hit an unbeaten 162 as Somerset compiled 413 for four — the highest score in the 60-over competition — before dismissing Devon for 67 in their first round match.

Holders Warwickshire had a comfortable start with a 128-run victory over Hertfordshire on a day when none of the minor counties was able to upset the professionals.

Openers Andy Moles (60) Asif Din (66) gave Warwickshire a secure foundation with a 133-run partnership of the total of 336 for seven. Hertfordshire always struggled to make runs and were bowled out for 208.

England captain Graham Gooch blasted an unbeaten century to lead Essex to an easy nine-wicket victory over Scotland.

After the Scots were bowled out for 200, Gooch hit 103 from just 109 deliveries as Essex reached their target with nearly 18 overs to spare.

England batsman Neil Fairbrother hit a 42-ball unbeaten 50 as Lancashire, already finalists in another one-day competition, stormed to an eight-wicket win over Durham.

Graeme Hick hit an undefeated 78 to help Worcestershire to an eight-wicket win over Suffolk.

Derbyshire's players were embarrassed to discover on Wednesday they had turned up for a match without cricket balls.

The players were set to take the field against Shropshire in their NatWest Trophy first round match when they realised they had left the match balls 25 miles (40 kms) away at their headquarters in Derby.

Start of the play was held up for over half an hour while arrangements were made.

Astaphan accused of misconduct

TORONTO, June 29, (Reuters): The personal doctor of disgraced Olympic sprinter Ben Johnson, who was stripped of his gold medal at the 1988 Seoul Games for using steroids, was charged on Wednesday with professional misconduct.

Jamie Astaphan, Ben Johnson's doctor before the Olympics, will face a misconduct hearing which could result in him losing his licence to practise medicine, the Ontario College of Physicians and Surgeons announced.

"As a result of an investigation following the Seoul Olympics and following the Dublin inquiry we felt there was sufficient evidence (for a misconduct hearing)," spokeswoman Linda Franklin said.

Astaphan admitted at a public inquiry held by an Ontario judge, Charles Dubin, that he designed a steroid programme for athletes and supplied and administered the drugs.

Dubin, in his report published on Tuesday, said: "In obtaining drugs on the black market and supplying them to his patients, it cannot be said that (Astaphan) was merely prescribing drugs as a normal function of a physician."

"In addition, the evidence shows that he supplied and administered drugs manufactured for veterinary use only, and I am satisfied that he did not advise the athletes that he was doing so."

Another physician, Dr Ara Artinian of Toronto, was also charged with professional misconduct following an admission that he gave steroids to Canadian athletes.

Neither Astaphan, who practises on the Caribbean island of St Kitts, nor Artinian was available for comment.

● The International Olympic



Johnson at a press conference in Toronto. Johnson said he had won the 1988 Olympics gold without drugs. (Reuters wirephoto)

Committee and the International Amateur Athletic Federation don't like being blamed, not even partially, for the steroid scandal which resulted in a two-year ban on Johnson.

The Dublin inquiry said the Olympic movement must shoulder part of the blame for its lenient attitude towards those who are caught taking drugs.

"It's a surprise to the IOC because it was the IOC which put to the line the Johnson case and all the other drugging cases," spokeswoman Michelle Verdier said Wednesday at the group's headquarters in Lausanne, Switzerland.

"The IOC has been fighting

Salsabil bids for record

DUBLIN, June 29, (Reuters): Dual classic winner Salsabil bids on Sunday to become the first filly to win the Irish Derby in 90 years — but she will have to be at her very best to beat Epsom Derby victor Quest for Fame.

Europe's richest classic has turned into the race of the year thanks to the sporting decision of Sheikh Hamdan Al Maktoum to run Salsabil, an impressive winner of the English 1,000 Guineas and then an effortless five-length scorer in the Oaks.

But first-season trainer Roger Charlton is determined to spoil the Salsabil party and land himself a unique record.

He won the French Derby with

Sangamore, the Epsom classic three days later with Quest for Fame and now tries for a hat-trick never achieved before by any trainer.

"I find the likelihood of winning all three almost impossible to believe," he confessed before the 600,000 punt (\$900,000) race at the Curragh, the windswept, galloping track that is the headquarters of Irish racing.

"To win the Irish Derby would mean a hell of a lot to me even though I think I have already won my share of derbies this year," said the lanky 40-year-old who has had such a dream start to his new career.

France look to Lynagh

SYDNEY, June 29, (Reuters): France's chances of avoiding a humiliating 3-0 whitewash by Australia depend on whether Australian flyhalf Michael Lynagh recovers from a hamstring injury suffered in the scintillating second test.

French coach Jacques Fouroux has completely restructured his side for tomorrow's third Test, making seven changes, before training injuries forced another three.

Despite France's electrifying running in the second half of the second Test last Sunday, which they lost 48-31, there is little to suggest their basic scrumwork,

handling or confidence will have improved sufficiently to down Australia.

Lynagh scored an Australian record 24 points in the second Test after 17 in the first, won 21-9 by the home side, so a final fitness Test he undergoes shortly before tomorrow's game will be watched with particular interest by Fouroux.

"Australia have not won a series 3-0 since beating Fiji in 1976. Coach Bob Dwyer, who said at the season's start he believed a clean sweep against France was possible, is convinced his side will finish with a flourish."

Sainz seeks to increase gap at top

AUCKLAND, New Zealand, June 29, (Reuters): Spanish driver Carlos Sainz Jr. had a big march on his World Championship rivals in the New Zealand rally starting tomorrow.

Sainz heads the standings after victory in the Acropolis rally earlier this month and none of the other drivers in the top 10 has entered here.

The rally is the latest round of the drivers' championship but does not count for the manufacturers' title.

The major teams were not expected to come to far-away New Zealand, until Toyota gave their top driver a huge boost by lodging an entry just minutes before the deadline.

Sainz has 60 championship points, leading the three Lancia works drivers. Didier Auriol of France on 55, world champion Miki Biasion of Italy on 44 and the Finn Juha Kankkunen on 42.

Success for Sainz would put him firmly in command in the title chase.

His main opposition is expected to come from two drivers in works Mazda 323 4WDs. Ingvar Carlsson of Sweden and US-based New Zealander Rod Millen, who finished first and second respectively last year.



Doherty in action during the race. (Reuters wirephoto)

Doherty runs year's fastest 5,000 metres

HELSINKI, June 29, (Reuters): Ireland's John Doherty clocked the world's fastest 5,000 metres this year at the Helsinki Grand Prix athletics meeting on Wednesday.

Doherty returned 13 minutes 15.28 seconds to finish more than nine seconds ahead of Steve Plascencia of the United States.

Morocco's Olympic 10,000 metres champion Ibrahim Boutayeb dropped out after taking a knock on the heel early in the race.

World 1,500 metres champion Abdi Bile of Somalia, in his first outdoor meeting of the season, finished third in the 800 metres.

The race was won by American Mark Everett in one minute 46.38 seconds.

In the men's high jump, Conway Hollis of the United States cleared 2.37 metres, second best in the world this year, before failing at 2.41 metres. Sorin Matei of Romania was second.

In the long jump, American Mike Powell recorded a personal best this year to win with 8.26 metres ahead of Jaime Jefferson.

Doina Melinte of Romania, the 1984 Olympic women's 800 champion, won the 1,500 metres in four minutes 3.26 seconds from Svetlana Kitova of the Soviet Union.

Brian Diemer of the United States, often a top-three finisher without wins in European steeplechase events, tasted victory after breaking away with 300 to go in the 3,000 metre race.

Diemer's time, 8:25.69, was far from his personal best of 8:13, but only 1.1 seconds from his best performance this year.

Daron Council, in the 100 metres (10.31), and Danette Young in the women's 200 (22.68) were other US GP event winners on the night.

● Former Canadian track coach Charlie Francis has been added to the list of people being sued by Carl Lewis for what the six-time Olympic gold medalist alleges was a conspiracy to defame him.

Lewis began his libel action of nearly \$364 million in December against the German magazine Stern and sprinter Darrell Robinson, a former teammate

of Lewis who now lives in Canada.

But an amended statement of claim, filed this month at the Supreme Court of Ontario, added Francis' name, along with more representatives of Stern, to the suit. The statement claims there was a conspiracy which created a \$1.2 million slush fund "for the purpose of buying perjured testimony."

The required testimony was to be used to force Lewis to discontinue his libel action or defeat it in court, the statement said.

"Carl has been really hurt by this, and he's not going to back down," Timothy Danson, Lewis' Toronto lawyer, said.

Representatives of Stern in Hamburg and New York said the magazine did not wish to comment on the suit. Francis, Canadian sprinter Ben Johnson's former coach, could not be reached.

The suit began after Robinson told Stern he sold banned growth hormones to 1988 Olympic star Florence Griffith Joyner and said Lewis used banned anabolic steroids to improve his performance.

Lewis' suit said Stern "exploited Robinson's weakness" by offering money for those statements. It was Francis, the suit alleges, who got Stern in touch with Robinson.

The suit also alleges Stern advised Francis it would pay up to \$1 million to any athlete who would testify at the Canadian government inquiry into drug use that Lewis took performance-enhancing drugs.

"Francis telephoned former US track and field athlete Stanley Floyd for the specific purpose of offering substantial sums of money in return for Floyd's testimony against Carl Lewis," the statement said.

Floyd never testified at the Dublin inquiry. "If Stanley Floyd was to do what he was asked to do, he would have prejudiced himself, and he wasn't prepared to do that," Danson said. "He wasn't going to lie."

The suit was filed in Ontario because Robinson lives in the province and Stern is republished here. Its findings will be enforceable in West Germany.



The Irish fans wait patiently outside the Olympic Stadium for tickets. (Reuters wirephoto)

Irish get more tickets

ROME, June 29, (AP): Irish soccer officials obtained 10,000 additional tickets yesterday for fans anxious to attend Ireland's World Cup quarterfinal against Italy, sports minister Frank Fahey said.

Fahey said the deal resulted from almost 10 hours of negotiations with tournament organizers.

"We have had excellent co-operation from a number of other football associations, particularly England. They have given us their allocation," Fahey said. "Consequently, we are able to obtain 3,500 tickets and another 1,500 have been promised tomorrow."

Some 5,000 Irish fans have received tickets through package deals with travel companies. Thousands more have made the trip to Italy without tickets.

In Cagliari, Palermo and Genoa, where the Irish have played their four matches so far, all supporters eventually got tickets after lengthy negotiation by the Irish soccer authorities.

Fahey said the distribution of tickets for the World Cup left a lot to be desired.

● Ireland's political leaders have buried their differences to support the Irish World Cup team tomorrow they are flying to the match with Prime Minister Charles Haughey.

Haughey invited opposition Fine Gael leader Alan Dukes and Labour party leader Dick Spring, a former Irish rugby international, to join him on the government executive jet for the flight to Rome. Both accepted the offer.

Dubin will be deserted for tomorrow's quarterfinal match.

World Cup notebook

Stylish shock: Cameroon had a stylish shock late Wednesday during a friendly soccer match at the team's base in Fasano. Four-goal hero Roger Miller gave a scream of pain after falling to the ground while contesting a high ball. Miller fell awkwardly and bruised his right shoulder, but refused doctor's advice to stop playing. Dr. Donato Monopoli said Miller's injury was only slight and would not prevent him playing in tomorrow's quarterfinal against England.

Alcohol ban: An extensive ban on alcohol sales, to reduce the risk of English hooligan violence at tomorrow's World Cup quarterfinal between England and Cameroon, was announced in Naples yesterday.

Brazil player: Brazilian international defender Aldair has signed a two-year contract with Italian First Division club Roma, the club said yesterday.

Haessler ready: Flashy West German midfielder Thomas Haessler said Wednesday he is getting ready for a comeback into the World Cup team after recovering from a pulled muscle.

Irish players: Irish World Cup players Pat Bonner and Ray Houghton have joined an Italian television campaign to persuade young people not to use drugs. The pair figured in a special anti-drug programme filmed at their hotel on Wednesday.

Offside rule: Soccer's rule-making body decided Thursday to loosen the offside rule for the new season, allowing a player to be in line with the next-to-the-last defender when a team-mate passes him the ball.

Special attention: Czechoslovak striker Tomas Skuhravy, the leading World Cup scorer with five goals, will get special attention from West German defenders in tomorrow's quarterfinal match, coach Franz Beckenbauer said Thursday.

Rijkard blamed: European champion AC Milan on Thursday blamed its Dutch midfielder, Frank Rijkard, for his angry exchange with West German striker Rudi Voller during a World Cup match. Both players were sent off after having two confrontations in two minutes of the Sunday match won 2-1 by West Germany.

Contract extended: West German captain-midfielder Lothar Matthaus has extended for two years his contract with Italian Major League Internazionale di Milan, club sources said Thursday. The sources said Matthaus, 29, will get about 2.5 billion lire (\$2.1 million), or about \$1 million a year.

Belgian midfielder: Italian Major League club Fiorentina is close to working out a deal for Belgian midfielder Enzo Scifo, the Corriere dello Sport newspaper reported Thursday. Scifo, who belongs to Inter-Milan, probably would be loaned to Fiorentina for a season, the newspaper said.

Cup tickets: Brazilian and Dutch fans have begun to unload their World Cup tickets for the semifinal and final matches. The Italian news agency Ansa said the asking price is 3 million lire (\$2,500) for home seats in the central grandstand at Rome's Olympic Stadium.

Maradona expects to be fully fit

Argentina, Yugoslavia set for clash

FLORENCE, Italy, June 29, (UPI): World champion Argentina and dark horse Yugoslavia will provide a contrast in styles when they meet in their World Cup quarterfinal at the Stadio Comunale tomorrow afternoon.

Argentina comes into the match an experienced, but battle-scarred champion.

Yugoslavia approaches its first World Cup quarterfinals for 16 years in a buoyant, enthusiastic mood.

After a slow start in the competition, Yugoslavia has been improving match by match and is capable of reaching the semifinals for the first time since 1962.

"It is very hard to defend a world championship," says Yugoslavia's coach Ivan Osim, "and we are determined that Argentina will not do it."

"I know that Carlos Bilardo says his team is just Diego Maradona and 10 others, but that is being disrespectful to the 10 others. They have been working as a unit to support Maradona, and we will have to work hard to beat their system."

Osim will name the team that beat Spain 2-1 in Tuesday's second round match for the game.

Zlatko Vujovic and Darko Pancev will spearhead a basic 4-4-2 Yugoslav formation with Dragan Stojkovic and Safet Susic, the 35-year-old midfielder veteran, coming forward to help in attack.

Refik Sahanzadevic will mark Maradona, while sweeper Davor Josic will keep a close watch on the dangerous Claudio Caniggia.



Maradona (left) and Bilardo talking to reporters at their training camp. (Reuter wirephotos)



the scorer of Argentina's winner against Brazil.

Osim's tactics, and team choices have been severely criticized by a hostile press, but he says if anything the criticism has helped foster a superb spirit in his side.

"We have had so many problems, what with the political situation in our country, and the way the press has treated us, its incredible we are still playing at all," he laughed.

"But we are, and we are improving with every match, and

that is the way you win World Cups."

Argentina has rarely played like a world champion since winning the trophy in Mexico four years ago. It came to these finals with an indifferent record and has reached the last eight with a workmanlike win over the Soviet Union, a surprise win over Brazil, a draw with Romania and an opening match loss to Cameroon.

Bilardo has been forced to make two changes to the team that beat Brazil.

Defender Pedro Monzon is suspended for one match and his place goes to Jose Serrizuela. Gabriel Calderon, who came on as a substitute against Brazil, will start in place of Pedro Troglio, who has a foot injury.

But Maradona says his left ankle has improved and he expects to be fully fit. Bilardo will again put his hopes on Maradona controlling the match, probably in a four-man midfield. Caniggia will be looking to get forward as quickly as possible with added support

Irish ready to take on Italians

ROME, June 29, (AP): The Irish will need their shamrocks against Italy's awesome power in a World Cup quarterfinal match tomorrow night in Rome's Olympic Stadium.

The victor plays the winner of tomorrow's Argentina-Yugoslavia match in a July 3 semifinal in Naples. The England-Cameroon and West Germany-Czechoslovakia matches Sunday yield the other semifinalists.

Combining a sticky defence with lightning counter-attacks, Italy has swept aside four opponents — Austria, the United States, Czechoslovakia and Uruguay — without surrendering a goal to reach the round of eight.

The Irish, a team without any real stars, advanced this far in their first World Cup on three gritty draws with England, Egypt and the Netherlands and a victory over Romania on a penalty shootout in the second round.

Couched by English soccer hero Jack Charlton, the Irish rely on British-style long-ball play and good conditioning to keep up with teams that outmatch them man-for-man.

The rangy coach insisted his team had done better than expected to reach the final eight and felt no pressure.

"The pressure is on the Italians," he told a news conference today. "They're expected to win."

And while Charlton refused to disclose his lineup or discuss tactics, a bit of strategy slipped through the rhetoric.

"When we play tomorrow, we'll do our best," he said. "If we win, good. If we lose, good. If we go to penalties, terrific."

Italy's biggest problem may be overconfidence, but coach Azzeglio Vicini insisted he isn't taking the Irish lightly. He pointed out to Ireland's 17-game unbeaten streak and their inspirational play in the first and second round.

"We're keeping all these things in mind," Vicini said. "Ireland has earned its place among the world's best eight teams."

"They play an aggressive style, with a great athletic base. They've been tough on everyone here so far, and we don't expect to have any easier a time with them," he said.

Forwards Roberto Baggio and Salvatore Schillaci are expected to start up front, while midfielder Carlo Ancelotti should replace Nicola Berti, who is sitting out a one-game suspension for two yellow cards.

Baggio said the Italian attackers would try to score early, but might play further back than usual to avoid giving up a goal on the counter-attack.

"We'll just have to use our speed to open things," noted winger Roberto Donadoni, who has recovered from a strained knee ligament suffered in the first round.

Ireland's tall defenders could prove troublesome to Schillaci and Baggio, who are fast but rather small. And there are other

factors that could help the Irish.

"They play with what seems to be real joy. The players seem to really enjoy themselves on the field, and the fact that they don't feel as much pressure may make them even more dangerous," forward Aldo Serena noted.

The Italians have won two prior meetings between the teams in Italy by identical 3-0 scores and twice beaten the Irish in Dublin by 2-1 scores.

Striker Gianluca Vialli, fit again after a thigh injury, has failed to regain his place in the Italian side.

Vicini said Vialli, who is expected to be on the substitutes' bench, had recovered from his injury and a chill but was still not in peak condition.

"For the last fortnight he has done only light training," Vicini said. "His frame of mind is good but I don't know what his physical condition is."

Further ahead, assuming Italy go through, he may be able to give us the sort of help we would normally expect from him."

Striker Salvatore Schillaci, whose fairy-tale World Cup turned him into a national hero, has topped defender Franco Baresi as Italy's most popular player.

Schillaci overtook sweeper Baresi in a running World Cup popularity poll this week, the survey organizers said.

He took 12.1 percent of the 22 million votes cast, just ahead of Baresi with 11.9.

from Jorge Burruchaga and Calderon, who helped tip the scales Argentina's way against Brazil with some forceful running.

Calderon, a winger in Argentina's 1979 World Youth Cup-winning team captained by Diego Maradona, was in Cesar Menotti's 1982 World Cup squad but was overlooked in 1986.

He was the last player to join Bilardo's squad in May after Mexico veteran Jorge Valdano failed in his bid to come back from retirement.

Maradona said he was confident Argentina would improve on the indifferent form they have shown so far in the tournament.

"We must definitely grow as a team against Yugoslavia," Maradona said. "We believe we're going to have a great match."

"Yugoslavia are a very good, compact team. It's not going to be easy. But they're not Brazil."

Probable lineups

Yugoslavia: 1. Tomislav Ivkovic; 3. Predrag Spasic; 6. Davor Josic; 5. Faruk Hadzibegovic; 7. Dragoljub Brnovic; 8. Safet Susic; 13. Srecko Katanec; 16. Refik Sahanzadevic; 9. Darko Pancev; 10. Dragan Stojkovic; 11. Zlatko Vujovic.

Argentina: 12. Sergio Goycochea; 19. Oscar Ruggeri; 16. Julio Olarticoechea; 20. Juan Simon; 18. Jose Serrizuela; 4. Jose Basualdo; 7. Jorge Burruchaga; 14. Ricardo Giusti; 8. Claudio Caniggia; 10. Diego Maradona; Gabriel Calderon.

Referee: Kurt Roethlisberger, Switzerland

'Keep English hooligans out of Turin'

TURIN, June 29, (Reuters): Turin's mayor has pleaded with World Cup organizers to keep English hooligans out of her city because she fears residents will try to take revenge for the Heysel disaster.

Mayor Maria Magnani Noya has formally asked Fifa and the World Cup organizing committee to swap the two semifinals in Naples and Turin if England qualify to play in her city, as seems likely.

Graffiti threatening vengeance have already appeared in Turin. Most of the 39 people killed after a riot by Liverpool fans at the 1985 European Cup final in Brussels' Heysel stadium were supporters of Turin's Juventus club.

England, whose fans have already been involved in severe World Cup violence, are favourites to win their quarterfinal against Cameroon in Naples on Sunday and would then play in Turin on July 4.

Magnani Noya told journalists: "The events involving hooligans in recent days show the danger linked to the presence of these characters in Turin."

Schillaci honoured

MESSINA, Sicily, June 29, (AP): Italian striker Salvatore Schillaci has been named to receive the Golden Star "World Cup Flash" award by this Sicilian city.

The award honours the Sicilian-born star for distinguishing himself in soccer this season.

Madonna to attend final

ROME, June 29, (AP): Rock star Madonna plans to attend the World Cup soccer final if Italy plays in the big game, her concert tour organizer said Wednesday.

"Madonna has developed an interest in the Italian team at the World Cup and this is shown by her intention to arrive in Rome before the final if Italy makes it," manager David Zard was quoted as saying.

Successor sought for Maradona's throne

ROME, June 29, (AP): Ever since Pele wore No 10 in his days of glory, the number has symbolized the essence of soccer.

Of the handful of successors of the legendary Brazilian, no one has earned the No 10 more than Diego Maradona, who led Argentina to the 1986 World Cup in Mexico.

But Maradona's performance in 1990 has shown only traces of his top form, and it raises the question.



Stojkovic bathes his feet in a swimming pool in Montecatini, 50 kms west of Florence. (Reuter wirephoto)

Who will be recognized as Pele's true successor after Maradona steps off the pitch for good?

In Argentina's first three matches at the 1990 World Cup, Maradona did little and the answer was implied. The king looked ready to abdicate.

But in the second round, Maradona produced a miracle. In his only real chance, the stocky midfielder created a game-winner with a brilliant pass to Claudio Caniggia, whose goal ousted Brazil 1-0 and sent Argentina to the quarterfinals.

At age 29, Maradona is undoubtedly playing in his final World Cup. He will be almost 34 when the 1994 tournament is staged in the United States.

Maradona has said he wants to play two or three more years with Napoli, the Italian League champion, and then finish up his career with one season at Boca Juniors of Buenos Aires.

If the Argentine steps down from international, there are a few pretenders waiting to succeed him as "No. 10." At least two are earning acclaim at Italia '90 and must be taken into serious consideration.

Yugoslavia's Dragan Stojkovic, 25, has shown fast thinking and great ability with the ball. This No. 10 scored both his team's goals Tuesday, eliminating Spain and putting the Yugoslavs into the quarterfinals.

"Some now compare me with Maradona, but he is unreachable," Stojkovic said. "It's because the quality of Maradona is difficult to equalize."

Lothar Matthaus of West Germany also has the field leadership. He's scored three long-range goals, using both feet with equal ease, in Italy to stake a claim as a rising superstar.

One candidate lost some of his lustre in Italy. Ruud Gullit of the Netherlands, who scored only one goal before the team was eliminated by West Germany in the second round.

The "Dutch connection" also brings to mind one of the greatest players in the Pele mode — Johan Cruyff, the superstar of the 1970s. Superstition forced him to wear No 14.

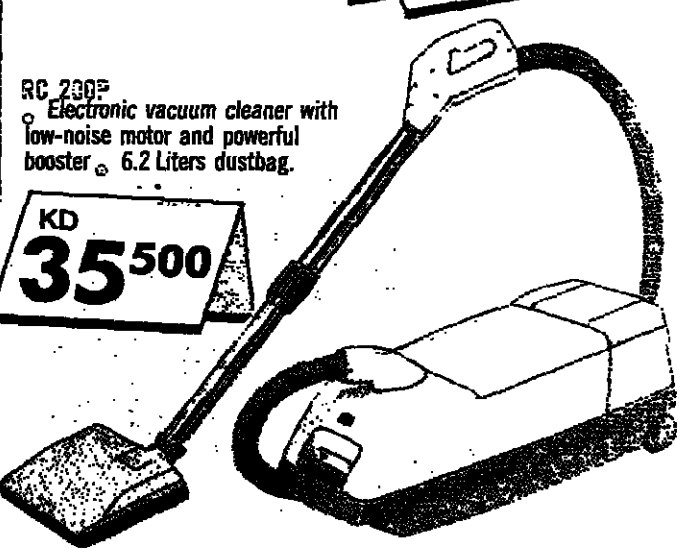
In Italy, all the Latin American pretenders to Maradona's Jersey were sent packing before the World Cup quarterfinals. They included Uruguay's Veteran Ruben Paz and the promising Colombian, Carlos Valderrama.

S. Korea manager quits

SEOUL, South Korea, June 29, (AP): Lee Howe-Taeek resigned yesterday as coach of South Korea's national soccer team to take responsibility for the squad's failure to win a match at the World Cup.

"I felt the limit of my ability," Lee said in announcing his resignation. After South Korea was eliminated in the first round of the Rome competition, Lee offered to resign. He made his resignation official yesterday. Lee came under public fire for his team's lackluster performance in Rome.

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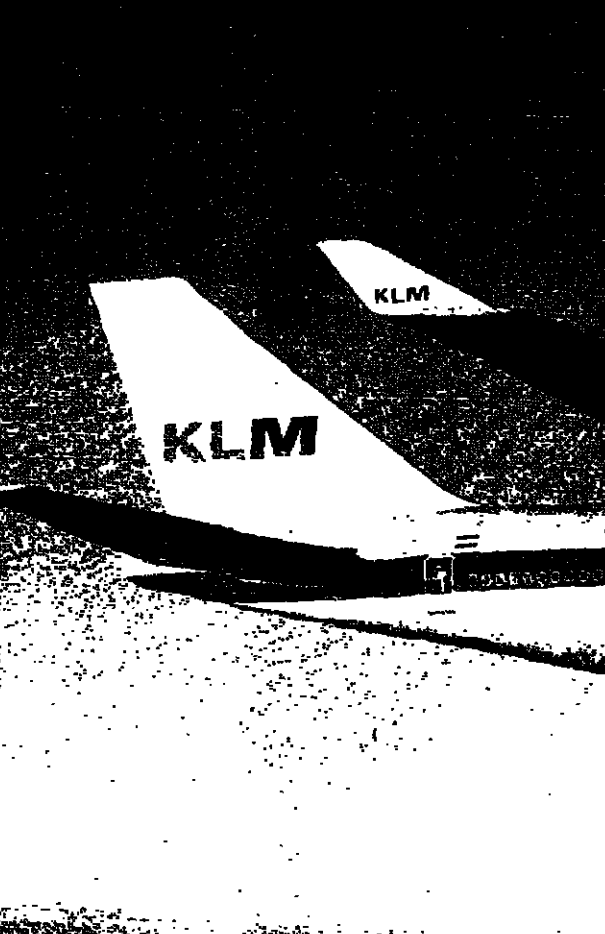
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Bin Sulayem leads the way in Turkey

ISTANBUL: Mohammed Bin Sulayem led the way as the Gunaydin Turkish International Rally began last night with the Middle East championship hoping to become the first Arab driver to find victory in the European Championships series.

Accompanied by Irish co-driver Ronan Morgan in his Winston Toyota Celica GT-4, Sulayem was the first of 34 drivers to be flagged away in a colourful start to the two-day 900-km rally.

With the UAE national flag hoisted alongside the flags of the 13 other countries represented in the event, Sulayem made his way through a large crowd of spectators gathered in Ayasofya Square, alongside Istanbul's famous Blue Mosque.

Ahead lay 24 special stages, 11 of which made up the first leg which was finishing at 11 am today. The rally was restarting seven hours later, with another 13 stages to be negotiated before the event finishes around 6.30 tonight.

Before setting off, Sulayem said: "There are a lot of very good drivers behind me, but I have prepared well for this rally, and I'm going to give it everything I've got over the next two days."

Following Sulayem towards the opening Super Stage on the outskirts of the Turkish capital were Emre Yelchik and Iskander Atakan, both driving Lancia Deltas and both carrying strong hopes of recording a home victory.

Yelchik, the 32-year-old reigning Turkish champion, is attempting to win the Gunaydin Rally for the third year in succession while Atakan aims to push him and Sulayem all the way.

Among the other leading contenders were high-rated Frenchman Philippe Bugalski in a Renault 11 Turbo, Turkish No. 3 Ali Bacioglu in an Audi Quattro, and the UAE's Suhail Khalifa who was making his European debut in a Mitsubishi Galant VR-4.

Partnered by Irishman Bobby Willie, Khalifa was tipped by Sulayem to surprise many of the more experienced international competitors, who included Yugoslav champion Branko Kuzmic in a Renault 5 GT Turbo.

Becker and Seles go through

Capriati continues storybook run

WIMBLEDON, England, June 29. (AP) Jennifer Capriati survived perhaps the toughest test of her young career today to continue her storybook progress at Wimbledon by reaching the fourth round.

Capriati, the 14-year-old 12th seed from Florida who seems to set records for youthful triumph whenever she steps on a court, blew five match points but rebounded from a second-set marathon to win the final six games and beat Robin White 7-5, 6-7, 6-3.

It left her 4-1 in three-set matches since she turned pro in March, but also with some doubts mixed with homesickness.

"I was thinking that it was good that I was able to pull that out," Capriati said. "But I was upset, saying, 'why aren't you closing these matches out?'"

Men's second seed Boris Becker and women's third seed Monica Seles won more easily. Becker defeated Dan Goldie of the United States 6-3, 6-4, 4-6, 7-5, and Seles beat Anne Minter of Australia 6-3, 6-3 on centre court.

Fifth-seeded Zina Garrison also won in straight sets, 6-0, 6-3 over Andrea Leand of the United States. Leand won just 17 points on her serve and lost five games at love.

Other winners on the fifth day included men's seventh seed Brad Gilbert, and women's 10th seed Helena Sukova and 13th seed Jana Novotna of Czechoslovakia. Eliminated was Derrick Rostagno, who knocked John McEnroe out in the first round.

White, a 26-year-old Californian ranked 59th in the world, gave it everything she had but Capriati had more. Capriati continually displayed the ability to come back when it seemed as if

the older White with the Statue of Liberty on her shirt would end the Grand Slam hopes of the latest tennis whiz kid.

In the first set, Capriati rallied from 2-0 to win, breaking back in the eighth game and again in the 12th. She blew two break points for the set in the 10th game.

White started the second set with a break, too, and was up 4-1 when Capriati started to roll. She won four games in a row and had match points at 30-40 and ad-out in the 10th, but Whitesaved both on netted backhands. She forced the tiebreaker on her second game point in the 12th and won the break 7-1 to even the match.

White started strongly again in the final set, going up 2-0. Then came the pivotal game.

Exchanging winners from the baseline and net, pounding big serves and chasing them down, Capriati and White battled for 18 minutes, through 32 points, in game 3. Capriati had five break points but lost them all on errors.

White needed nine game points to finally take a 3-0 lead on a long backhand.

"I shouldn't even have been down 0-3. I should have been in the locker room by that time," Capriati said.

For White, it was a hollow victory. Capriati came out from the changeover charged up, and White had no response.

"It took everything I had left, without a doubt," White said of the third game. "Even though mentally you don't think it does, because it fires you up, to be 3-0 up, physically it does."

Capriati held for 3-1, broke on a forehand down the line for 3-2, held for 3-3 and broke for 4-3 on a netted volley. By now, Capriati was talking to herself. "Yes, I want it, I want it," as she came out from the change.

She held for 5-3 on a backhand winner and — after White won



Capriati celebrates her victory. (Reuters wirephoto)

the first two points — went up 30-40 on three errors. There was then a mini-replay of game 3, with Capriati three times netting service returns that would have wrapped up the match. Finally, after a forehand into the corner gave her a sixth chance, Capriati won on a backhand service return that the diving White barely touched as she rushed to the net.

"I'm getting a little homesick but I want to finish this first," Capriati said. "I want to see my

house and see my puppy."

Becker, trying for his fourth Wimbledon title, showed a strong serve and service-return against Goldie. He broke in the final games to wrap up the first and second sets, handed Goldie the break on a double fault in the third game of the third set, then completed the match by breaking Goldie a final time in the 12th game on a service-return winner and a forehand passing shot down the line.

Gilbert, the highest-ranking

US player remaining in the men's draw, defeated Paul Haarhuis of the Netherlands 6-1, 3-6, 6-1, 6-2. Sukova beat Alexia Dechaume of France 6-4, 6-3, and Novotna defeated Jo-Anne Faull of Australia 6-2, 6-1. Rostagno lost to Goran Ivanisevic of Yugoslavia 6-2, 6-2, 6-4.

Pat Cash, the 1987 champion who has been up and down the rankings since, also reached the fourth round with a 6-1, 6-1, 6-4 victory over Juan Aguilera of Spain.

Yesterday, the mission of Ivan Lendl to finally win Wimbledon took another powerful step forward and received a further boost from a hard-hitting Austrian.

The top-ranked player in the world used pounding services, sharply angled volleys and too much skill to beat Jakob Hlasek of Switzerland 6-1, 6-3, 6-0 to advance to the third round.

Another player who has dedicated the season to winning Wimbledon, second-seeded Martina Navratilova, looked overpowering, too. She beat Anne Smith of the US 6-2, 6-3.

Stefan Edberg, the third seed and 1988 champion, beat Miloslav Mecir 6-2, 6-3, 6-2. Also advancing, although with a bit more difficulty, was Gabriela Sabatini. The women's fourth seed from Argentina beat Anke Huber of West Germany 6-2, 7-6.

Out of the tournament went Henri Leconte and Ros Fairbank, the 15th seeds.

Leconte was eliminated by Alex Antonitsch of Austria 2-6, 6-4, 7-6, 2-6, 6-3. Fairbank lost 6-4, 6-3 to Amy Frazier, a 17-year-old from the US who skipped three months of the tour this spring so she could graduate from high school with her friends.

Latest Steffi Graf of West Germany beat Claudia Kohde-Kilsch of West Germany 6-0, 6-4.

SPORTS BRIEFS

Aouita running again: Moroccan Said Aouita, the master of middle distance running, said yesterday he had started exercising again after major operations at the beginning of the month. "I am getting better little by little," he started doing brief jogging sessions a couple of days ago, said Aouita, the world record-holder at 1,500, 2,000, 3,000 and 5,000.

Rider in coma flown home: West German Reinhold Roth, who has been in a coma since crashing in the Yugoslian 250cc motorcycle Grand Prix in Rijeka 12 days ago, was flown home yesterday. Doctor Veda Dosen from Rijeka's neuro-surgical hospital said Roth was slightly improved and in a stable condition.

Milla expects to play: Veteran forward Roger Milla and his teammates expect to recover from a training injury in time for tomorrow's World Cup quarterfinal against England. Milla, 38, scored four key goals as a substitute to propel Cameroon into the quarterfinals. But he left on his shoulder during practice this week and said the right side of his torso felt stiff.

Skubavay denies deal: Czechoslovak striker Tomas Skubavay, the leading goalscorer in the World Cup, denied yesterday he signed a contract with Genoa of the Italian League. The Italian news agency Ansa reported that Skubavay, who has five goals in four World Cup matches, signed a contract with the First Division team.

Rome hoteliers like Irish: Rome's hotel owners welcome Irish World Cup fans with open arms but hope the English stay away. Amadeo Ottavio, chairman of the capital's hoteliers' association, said thousands of Irish fans in Rome for today's Italy-Ireland quarterfinal were "behaving extremely well."

Suit over Shaw withdrawn: The legal battle over who Brian Shaw will play for took another twist when his Italian basketball team temporarily withdrew its lawsuit against the Boston Celtics, according to an attorney for the Celtics.

Hasek to play abroad: Czechoslovak captain Ivan Hasek confirmed yesterday he is joining French team Strasbourg. Hasek said he had agreed to join Strasbourg. "I expect to join them next season," he said.

Tyson, Foreman to fight for Trump: Mike Tyson and Evander Holyfield will fight in September for Donald Trump at Atlantic City, instead of at Caesars Palace in Las Vegas. "Donald Trump bought it over the weekend," said Seth Abraham of HBO, which will televise the doubleheader pitting Tyson against Alex Stewart and Foreman against Francesco D'Amico or Michael Dokes on Sept. 22.

Cameroon League delayed: Cameroon's surprise success in the World Cup has forced a delay in the start of the National League Championship.

Ex-Cooney manager dies: Mike Jones, who co-managed heavyweight contender Alex Stewart and former heavyweight contender Gerry Cooney, died Tuesday. He was 55. Jones died at his home at Hempstead, New York. The cause of death was multiple myeloma, a cancer of the blood.

Cauten free to ride Belmez: Steve Cauten will ride Belmez in the Irish Derby horse racing classic at the Curragh on Sunday. The American, became free for the ride on Wednesday when trainer Henry Cecil took Old Vic, stable companion of Belmez, out of tomorrow's Grand Prix de Saint-Cloud in Paris.

Malaysia tennis: Syria and Iran will be making their debut in the Ghal Cup tennis tournament, scheduled to be held at the National Tennis Centre in Kuala Lumpur from July 9 to 13. The two countries are among nations which have confirmed participation in the championship which offers total prize money of \$30,000.

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